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16 February 2010

Ms. Anne Olson
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

Subject: Comments on Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements
Musco Family Olive Company, 17950 Via Nicolo, Tracy
K/J 020104.00

Dear Ms. Olson:

This letter is submitted by Kennedy/Jenks Consultants on behalf of the Musco Family Olive Company (Musco) to provide comments on the Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) and associated Information Sheet issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Water Board) on 14 January 2010. We appreciate your consideration of these comments.

Our comments are provided electronically in the attached Word files in "track changes" mode. Changes that are substantive and/or merit some explanation are also discussed in the following sections.

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

Findings

Findings 29, 30, 32 and 33 were revised for accuracy and clarity.

Finding 37 was revised to correct the current number of employees at the facility, as distinguished from the design capacity of the septic system.

Finding 44c was amended and Finding 44d was added based upon the analyses provided in Attachment A.

Finding 45 was amended based upon the analyses provided in Attachment A.

Finding 61 was modified to identify other physical mechanisms which could be responsible for the observed increase in water levels in the groundwater monitoring wells in the immediate vicinity of the reservoir. The attached figure illustrates the correlation in water levels observed in monitoring wells MW-15 and MW-16 and the 84-million gallon (MG) reservoir. The rapid

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response of water levels in these two wells suggests response to increased or decreased pressure on the aquifer system resulting from changes in water volumes in the 84-MG reservoir.

Finding 67. According to Musco records, the Division of Safety of Dams required that the reservoir spillway be designed for a 2500-year storm event to reduce the risk of dam failure.

Finding 69 was modified to reflect the letter to Musco from the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding the fate of the surface water drainage channel running through the site. The inclusion of this reference is appropriate to provide information to the Board and the public regarding the potential risk of impact from site operations on the Delta.

Finding 70 was modified to clarify the difference between designated and actual beneficial uses, and also note limitations of these uses by background groundwater quality.

Finding 80. Based upon our meeting on 8 February 2010 and subsequent telephone conversations, we understand that Water Board staff will revise the table included in Finding 80 to reflect the applicable TDS to constituent ratios. Proposed revisions are provided.

Wastewater Discharge Flow Limit

A revision to the monthly average flow limits is requested from 0.716 million gallons per day (mgd) to 1.0 mgd for the harvest months of September, October and November. This change would not affect the Total Annual Flow from the processing facility, nor would it impact the salt or hydraulic loading to the land application areas. Although a flow rate of 1.0 mgd has never been experienced, during October 2002 the monthly average flow was 0.92 mgd. Musco has implemented several water conservation measures, but the greatest impact has been on waste streams associated with processing and canning the olives, rather than during harvest when olives are flumed to the storage tanks in fresh water. As a food processor responding to the vagaries of climate and crop yields, Musco needs the flexibility to receive bumper crops such as in 2001 when Musco's olive intake was nearly double that of the average crop year.

Irrigation Prior to and Following Precipitation Events

A revision to the Land Application Area Specification D.4 is requested to provide Musco with the operational flexibility for irrigation within 24 hours following a minor (i.e., less than 0.1 inch) precipitation event, or within 24 hours prior to events that have low probability of occurring. As written, the standard specification would prohibit irrigation to meet crop needs during warm days with a low probability of afternoon showers, or on a day following a trace amount of precipitation when the actual evapotranspiration rate could exceed precipitation. Based upon historical records of predicted and actual precipitation and Musco's calculations, this requested revision would provide approximately 30 additional days per year for irrigation to be performed. Note that Musco will not irrigate during precipitation events or when the ground is saturated.

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Antidegradation Analysis

An additional finding in this section is recommended to recognize that Musco had performed a pilot study to evaluate the potential use of reverse osmosis to remove dissolved solids from the process wastewater. Similar to many other Central Valley food processors, the pilot study identified the challenge of adequate removal of organics to prevent frequent fouling of the reverse osmosis membranes. The suggested language for the additional finding (inserted as finding 79d) is provided below:

"Between 2003 and 2005, the Discharger retained an equipment vendor to conduct a pilot study to evaluate the feasibility of using a two-stage reverse osmosis (RO) system to remove dissolved solids from the process wastewater. An immersed membrane bioreactor (MBR) upstream of the RO unit was necessary to minimize fouling of the RO membranes. The pilot study indicated that, based upon residuals management requirements, including the additional high-salinity RO reject water and the biological sludge, and the membrane cleaning requirements, dissolved solids removal using membrane systems is cost prohibitive for the facility. The Discharger has proposed to implement an alternate technology (RENEWS) for removal of dissolved solids from a portion of its process wastewater."

Financial Assurance and Funds for Closure

Provision G.1.b and G.1.c. It is premature to require the Financial Assurance Report and the funding of a Financial Assurance Account prior to submittal, review and approval of the required Conceptual Site Closure Plan. In January 2007, Musco submitted a *Site Closure and Maintenance Report*, which presented several closure options for the land application areas and generated questions outlined in Finding 67 of this Order. To default to the most expensive of the options presented in the January 2007 report prior to a final determination of the best practicable closure method will create extreme hardship for Musco. While this Order provides for a 10-year period to fully fund the Financial Assurance Account, according to Generally Accepted Accounting Practices the entire financial liability must be charged against Musco's financial balance sheet immediately. Such an action in the current economic climate will make it extremely difficult for Musco to obtain operational financing at competitive rates, and may make it impossible to obtain necessary financing at all. Similar financing has been used in the past to implement facility improvements such as construction of the dam and reservoir, replacement of the million-gallon pond with the aboveground reservoir surge tank (RST), planting NyPa forage, and purchasing the RENEWS equipment.

Sludge Accumulation in the 84-MG Reservoir

Provision G.1.d. This provision includes requirements that are not technically feasible. The requirement that biosolids be removed prior to accumulation of a volume equal to 2 percent of the 84-MG reservoir capacity assumes that sludge accumulation can be estimated within a 2 percent margin of error. This is not the case. This level of accuracy can only be achieved by

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emptying and drying the reservoir and then surveying it. While a portion of the reservoir was surveyed in 2007, such low wastewater volumes are rare.

Developing an accurate estimate of the rate of solids accumulation is impossible. As indicated above, the available volume of the reservoir cannot be determined accurately without a land survey. The 84-MG reservoir functions as a facultative treatment system. Only the upper 2-3 feet of the reservoir are aerobic. Furthermore, process wastewater is discharged into the base of the reservoir, so that a portion of the BOD reduction occurs anaerobically. Anaerobic reduction of BOD typically generates far less biomass than aerobic BOD removal. Additionally, a significant portion of the historic solids accumulation is attributable to silt in the irrigation tailwater from the land application areas. As the NyPa cover continues to improve, we anticipate that tailwater flows and silt return to the 84-MG reservoir will also decrease dramatically.

It should be noted that the water balances submitted to the Water Board in early January 2010 included the assumption that reservoir storage would not drop below 6 MG. This volume of dead storage, approximately 7 percent of the stated 84-MG reservoir volume, could be filled with sludge without affecting the reservoir water balances and resulting conclusions about facility capacity during extreme precipitation events.

To the extent that solids have accumulated on the floor of the reservoir, this solids layer is providing an additional seal to limit seepage through the reservoir floor. Excavation of the accumulated solids will likely destroy this seal, so such excavation should not be undertaken until the depth is such that the actual soil layer is not disturbed.

Given the above discussion and Musco's ability to cease operations as needed to control wastewater flows and the standard requirement for maintaining a minimum of two feet of freeboard in the reservoir, the requirement to excavate solids when the accumulated volume reaches 2 percent of the total capacity is not necessary or appropriate.

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

First page, third paragraph regarding field test instruments

It is most appropriate to calibrate field equipment at the manufacturer's recommended interval. Item number 2 was amended to read, "The instruments are field-calibrated at least at the manufacturer's recommended calibration frequency".

Wastewater Treatment/Storage Reservoir Monitoring

To reduce paperwork, Musco has modified footnote 3.

Land Application Area Monitoring

The footnotes for the table were modified to note that precipitation data are obtained from the nearby CIMIS station and not from an onsite rain gauge.

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Groundwater Monitoring

Footnote 2 was revised to include the stock watering well (i.e., collecting and using water level data from that well would NOT be required). This well sometimes contains a pump which precludes measurement of water level elevations.

Land Application Area Soils Monitoring

Cation exchange capacity (CEC) and exchangeable sodium percentage (ESP) were deleted from the list of constituents to be analyzed. As indicated in Attachment A, ESP is calculated from another measurement and CEC is not a reliable indicator of salinity impacts in soil in the Musco LAAs.

Soil Moisture Monitoring

We suggest rewriting this as follows: "The Discharger shall monitor soil moisture at appropriate soil moisture monitoring locations depicted on Attachment F, which is attached hereto and forms part of this Order. Locations that are duplicate measurement locations (i.e. sites 2, 7, 8, and 12) may be omitted. Moisture measurements shall be obtained quarterly from the ground surface to a depth of five feet in 12-inch intervals. All soil moisture monitoring results shall be reported in units appropriate for developing soil water balances or for irrigation scheduling in the Annual Monitoring Report."

Additional Revision

While not specifically addressed in the WDRs or MRP, for the purposes of future monitoring and reporting, Musco intends to consolidate the existing land application areas identified in Finding 26 of the WDRs based largely on watershed, slope, and proximity. The consolidation will reduce the size of the monthly self-monitoring reports (currently approximately 300 pages each month) while continuing to provide the data necessary to confirm compliance with the WDRs and protection of groundwater. The revised land application areas will be:

- Area 1: Field 95 (1st, 2nd, and 3rd swales)
- Area 2: Field 55 (East and West)
- Area 3: South Ridge (East and West) and Checks
- Area 4: 18 North, Evaporation South, Evaporation West, Park West, Pasture, Spur North

Fields within each area have similar slopes, soil types, and irrigation management practices.

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INFORMATION SHEET

Proposed modifications to the Information Sheet are shown in track changes mode in the attached Word file. The modifications are consistent with modifications to the Tentative WDRs and MRP.

Thank you for your attention to this letter and the attached documents. Please contact me at (415) 243-2534 if you have any questions regarding these comments.

Very truly yours,

KENNEDY/JENKS CONSULTANTS



Meredith G. Durant, P.E.
Project Manager

Enclosures

cc: Ben Hall, Musco Family Olive Company
Dennis Leikam, Musco Family Olive Company
Gary Carlton, Kennedy/Jenks
Mike Campos, Stoel Rives

Attachment A

Soil Data Evaluation in Support of WDR Findings

Attachment A – Soil Data Evaluation in Support of WDR Findings

A.1 Finding 44

Statistical evaluation was performed for soils data from the land application areas (LAAs) and adjacent background locations. This analysis was conducted for three standardized depth intervals from the surface to 6 feet below ground surface. The dataset includes annual soil sampling results over a number of years and allows a quantification of changes between background and LAA soil conditions. Key results are discussed below.

- **Electrical Conductivity (EC).** EC measurements for the LAAs and background soil sample locations are significantly different at the 0-6 inch depth interval. This demonstrates the soil salinity has increased in LAA surface soils. At the 27-39 inch depth, LAA EC is also significantly higher than background EC. The increase in EC is, however, much smaller. At the 60-72 inch depth, no statistical difference between LAA and background data is present. Land applied salts are stored in the surface layers of LAA soils.
- **Exchangeable Sodium Percentage (ESP) and Sodium Adsorption Ratio (SAR).** These soil properties both quantify the sodium status in soils. Although ESP and SAR were originally measured in different ways, the currently recommended method to determine ESP is to use an equation to calculate ESP based on a measurement of SAR (Hanson, Grattan, and Fulton. 2005. *Agricultural Salinity and Drainage*. University of California Publication ANR 3375. Davis, Ca.). For this reason, Musco is requesting that ESP be dropped from the list of soil analytes required in the Tentative Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP).

Statistical evaluation of these parameters allow the same conclusions regarding increase of sodium in LAA soils: surface soil concentrations of sodium in LAAs are significantly higher than background in the 0-6 and 27-39 inch depth intervals. At 60-72 inches, sodium concentration in LAA soils is not significantly increased. As with EC, the amount of increase at 27-39 inches is less than that at 0-6 inches.

- **Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC).** CEC of LAA soils is not significantly different than background soil samples at any depth interval sampled. This finding is not surprising because CEC is a soil property that does not change appreciably under most soil management practices. Statistical evaluation of CEC was conducted in order to support Musco's request to have CEC eliminated from the MRP. This request is supported by the lack of differences between LAA and background soils as well as the relatively small range in measured CEC values.

Finding 44c of the Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements was amended and Finding 44d was added based on the results of non-parametric tests of significance of the differences in EC measurements in soil samples collected at LAA sites (Sites 1 through 10 and Sites 12 through 19) compared to soil samples collected at background sites (Sites 11, 20, A, B, and C). The three soil depth intervals sampled at each site (0- to 6-inch, 27- to 39-inch, and 60-to 72-depth intervals) were evaluated separately.

To determine the appropriate test of significance of differences, the distribution types of each of the LAA and background EC data sets were evaluated using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ProUCL software program, Version 4.00.04 (Table A-1) (EPA 2009). A non-parametric test of significance of the differences was used (Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney test) because the soil data were not normally distributed.

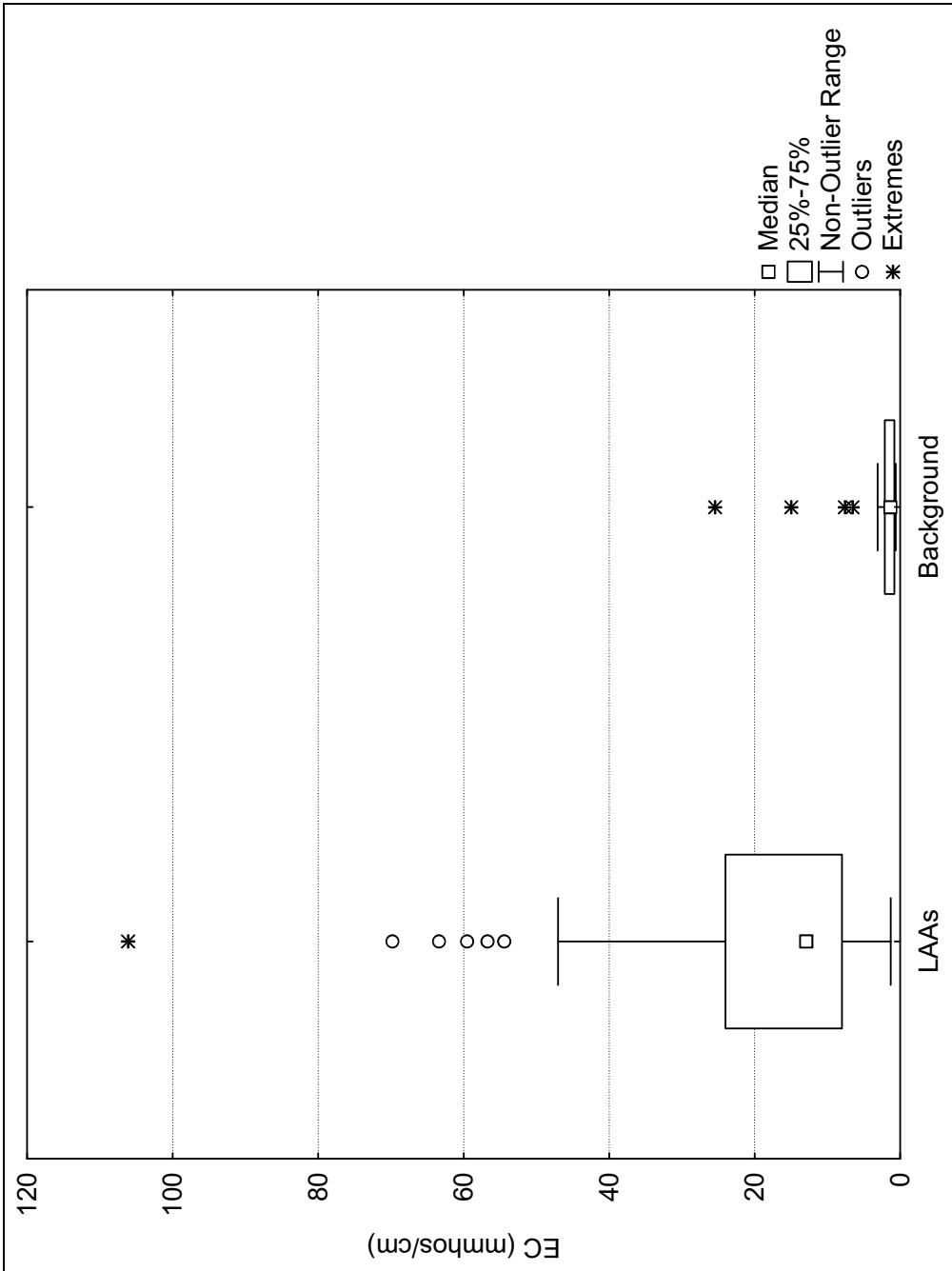
Table A-1: Distribution Types for EC Measurements in Soil

Depth Interval	LAAs	Background
0 to 6-inch	Non-parametric	Nonparametric
27- to 39-inch	Nonparametric	Nonparametric
60- to 72-inch	Nonparametric	Nonparametric

Figures A-1 through A-3 display box plots of the LAA and background EC data for each soil depth interval. The box plots were created using the statistical software program STATISTICA®. The box plots indicate that there are significant differences in EC measurements between LAA and background soils for the 0- to 6-inch depth interval (Figure A-1) and the 27- to 39-inch depth interval (Figure A-2), and that the degree of difference is greater for the 0- to 6-inch depth interval compared to the 27- to 39-inch depth interval. The box plots of EC measurements for the 60- to 72-inch depth interval (Figure A-3) indicate that the data sets are not significantly different.

The Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney test, also called the Mann-Whitney U test, is a non-parametric test of significance for assessing whether two independent samples of observations come from the same distribution. The Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney tests were completed using the EPA's ProUCL software. The nonparametric test of significance was based on a confidence coefficient (i.e., p-value) of 0.05. A p-value of 0.05 corresponds to a 5 percent chance that the data sets are not significantly different. If the calculated p-value is less than 0.05, the result was considered to be statistically significant.

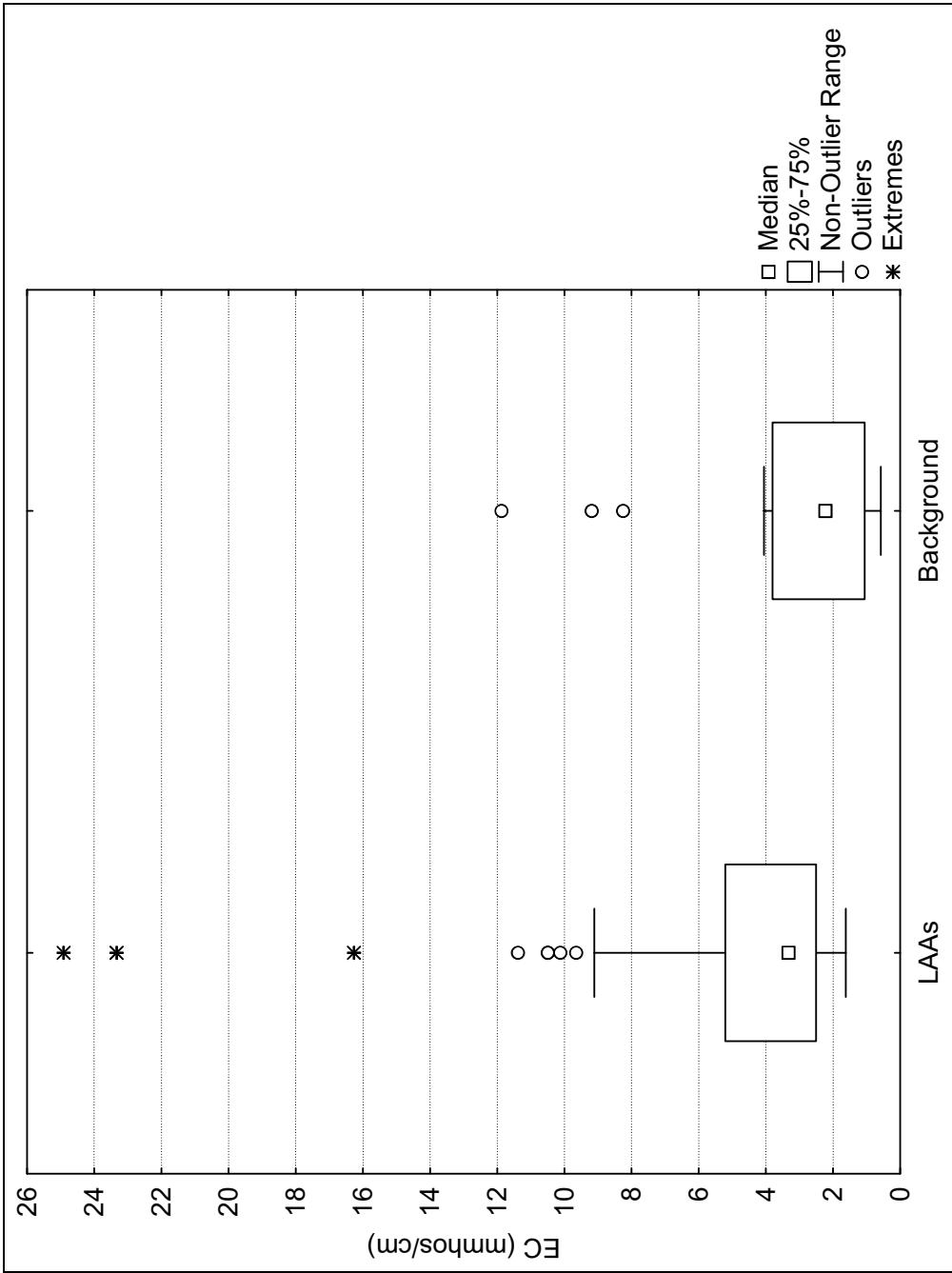
The results of the Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney test indicate that the LAA and background EC data sets for the 0- to 6-inch depth interval are significantly different (i.e., p-value < 0.05). The results of the Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney test indicate that the LAA and background EC data sets for the 27- to 39-inch depth intervals are significantly different (p-value < 0.05), though to a lesser extent than the 0- to 6-inch depth interval. For the 60- to 72-inch depth interval, the results of the Wilcoxon-Mann Whitney test indicate that the LAA and background EC data sets are not significantly different (p-value ≥ 0.05).



**BOX PLOTS OF ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY
0- TO 6-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

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TRACY, CALIFORNIA

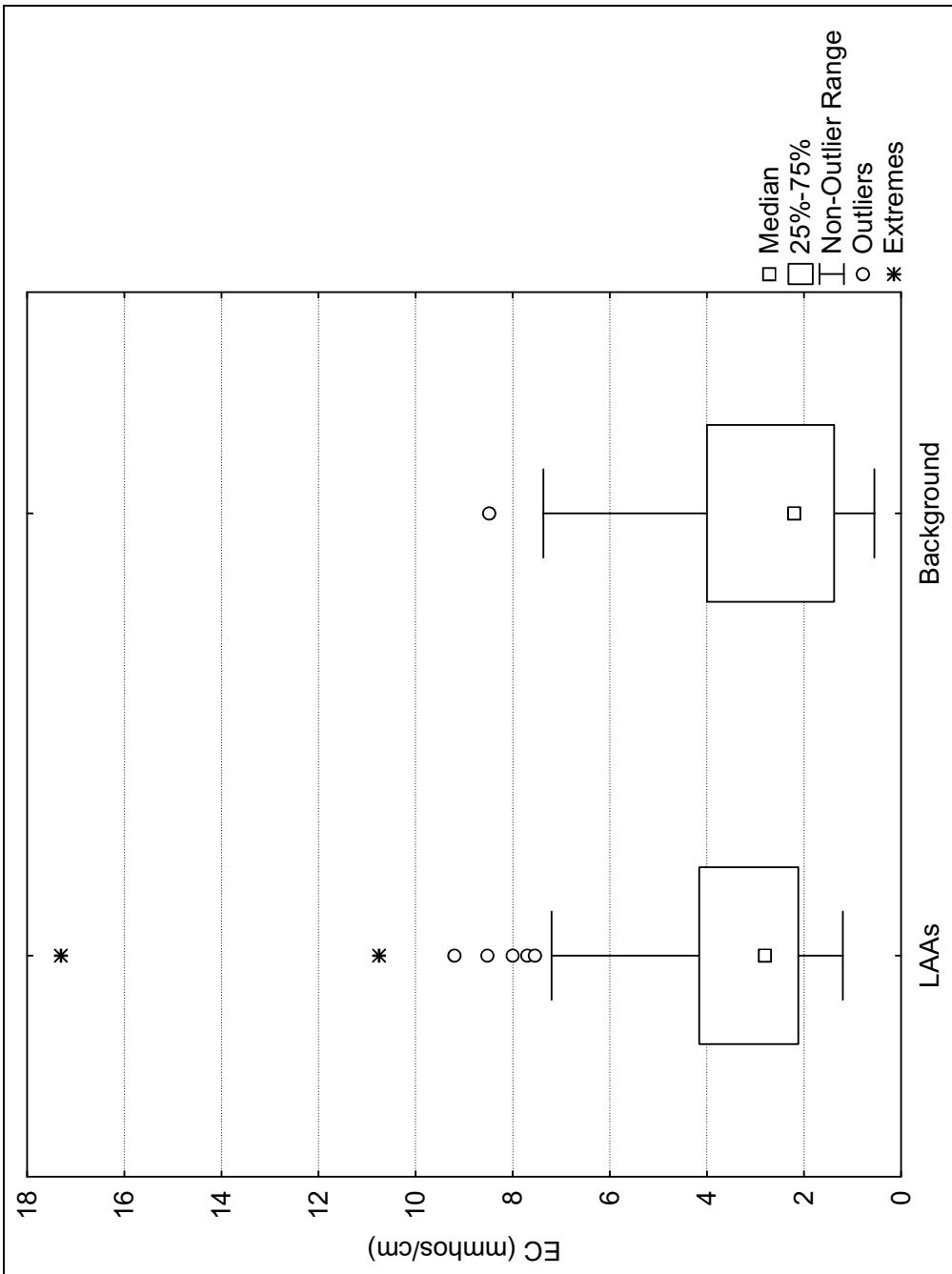
KJ 020104.00
FIGURE A-1



**BOX PLOTS OF ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY
27. TO 39-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

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KJ 020104.00
FIGURE A-2



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KJ 020104.00
FIGURE A-3

A.2 Finding 45

Finding 45 was modified based on the results of nonparametric tests of significance in differences between LAA and background soil data sets for SAR, ESP, and CEC. The methodology and software used were as described above for Finding 44. A non-parametric test of significance of the differences was used because the soil data were not normally distributed, with the exception of CEC in soil. A t-test of significances in differences, based on normal distributions, was used to evaluate CEC in soil collected from LAA and background locations.

Table A-2: Distribution Types for SAR, ESP, and CEC Measurements in Soil

Depth Interval	SAR		ESP		CEC	
	LAA	Background	LAA	Background	LAA	Background
0 to 6-inch	Lognormal	Non-parametric	Normal	Non-parametric	Normal	Normal
27- to 39-inch	Lognormal	Normal	Non-parametric	Normal	Normal	Normal
60- to 72-inch	Lognormal	Normal	Lognormal	Normal	Normal	Normal

Figures A-4 through A-12 present box plots of SAR, ESP, and CEC in soil collected at LAA and background locations for the three depth intervals: 0- to 6-inch, 27- to 39-inch, and 60- to 72-inch depth interval.

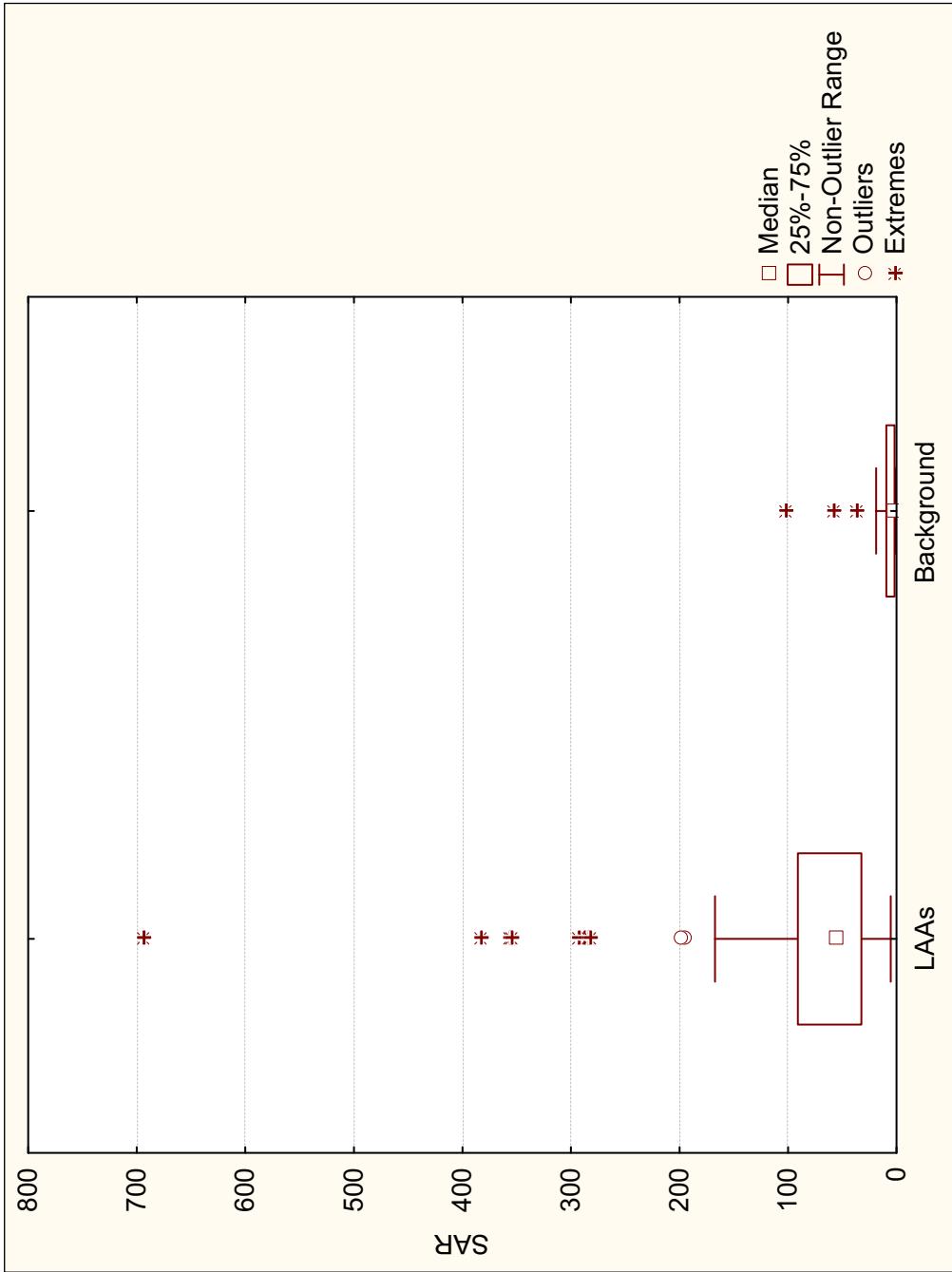
SAR and ESP. The box plots for the 0- to 6-inch depth interval indicate that both SAR (Figure A-4) and ESP (Figure A-5) in soils collected from LAAs are significantly higher than background soils. The results of the tests of significance in differences (Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney tests) also indicated that SAR and ESP are significantly different at the 0- to 6-inch depth interval (i.e., p-value < 0.05) for soils collected at LAA locations compared to background locations. The box plots for the 27- to 39-inch depth interval indicate that SAR (Figure A-7) and ESP (Figure A-8) in soil collected from LAAs are significantly higher than background soils. The results of the test of significance in differences also indicated that SAR and ESP are significantly different at the 27- to 39-inch depth interval (i.e., p-value < 0.05) for soils collected at LAA locations compared to background locations. However, the degree of differences in SAR and ESP are greater for the 0- to 6- inch depth interval than for the 27- to 39- depth interval. The box plots for the 60- to 72-inch depth interval indicate that SAR (Figure A-10) and ESP (Figure A-11) in soil collected from LAAs are not significantly higher than background soils. The results of the test of significance in differences also indicated that SAR and ESP are not significantly different at the 60- to 72-inch depth interval (i.e., p-value ≥ 0.05) for soils collected at LAA and background locations.

CEC. The box plots for CEC in soil for all three soil depth intervals (Figure A-6, A-9, and A-12) indicate that CEC concentrations are not significantly different in soils collected from LAA locations compared to background locations. The results of the test of significance in differences also indicated that CEC is not significantly different at any of the three depth intervals sampled (i.e., p-value ≥ 0.05) for soils collected at LAA compared to background locations.

References:

(Hanson, Grattan, and Fulton. 2005. *Agricultural Salinity and Drainage*. University of California Publication ANR 3375. Davis, Ca.)

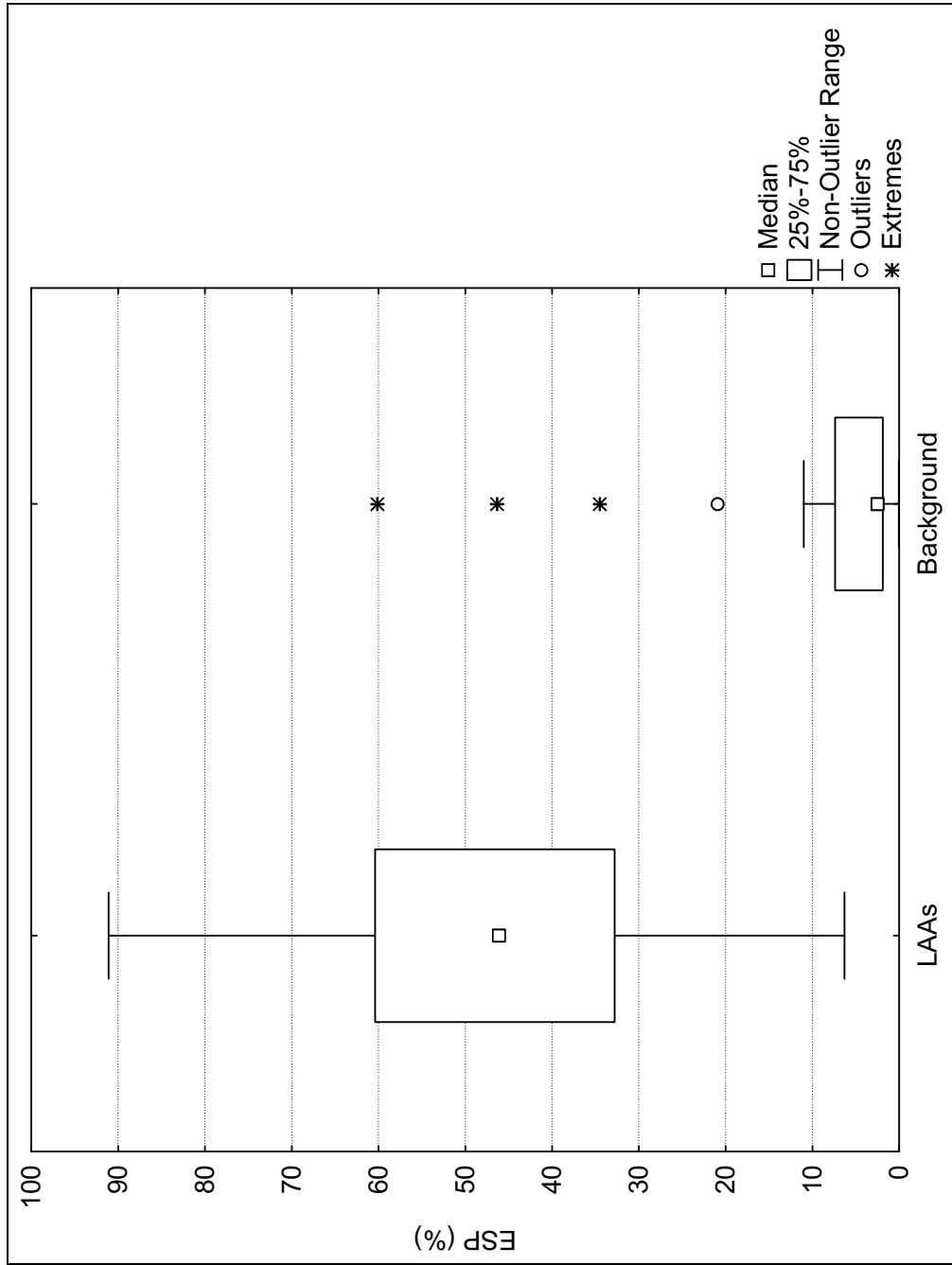
United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 2009. ProUCL Version 4.00.04 Technical User Guide. EPA/600/R-07/041. February 2009.



**BOX PLOTS OF SODIUM ABSORPTION RATIO
0- TO 6-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

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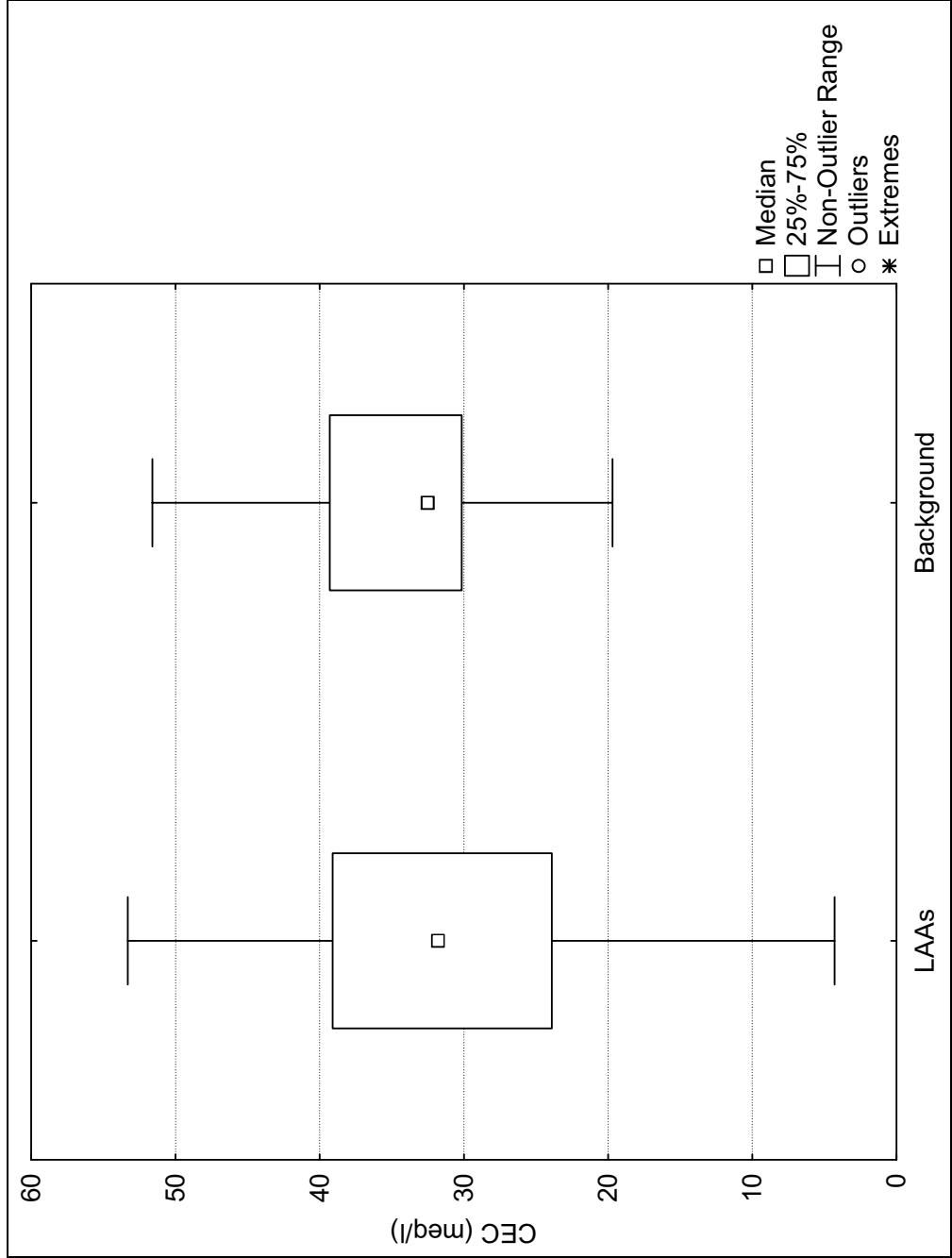
KJ 020104.00
FIGURE A-4



**BOX PLOTS OF EXCHANGABLE SODIUM PERCENTAGE
0- TO 6-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

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TRACY, CALIFORNIA

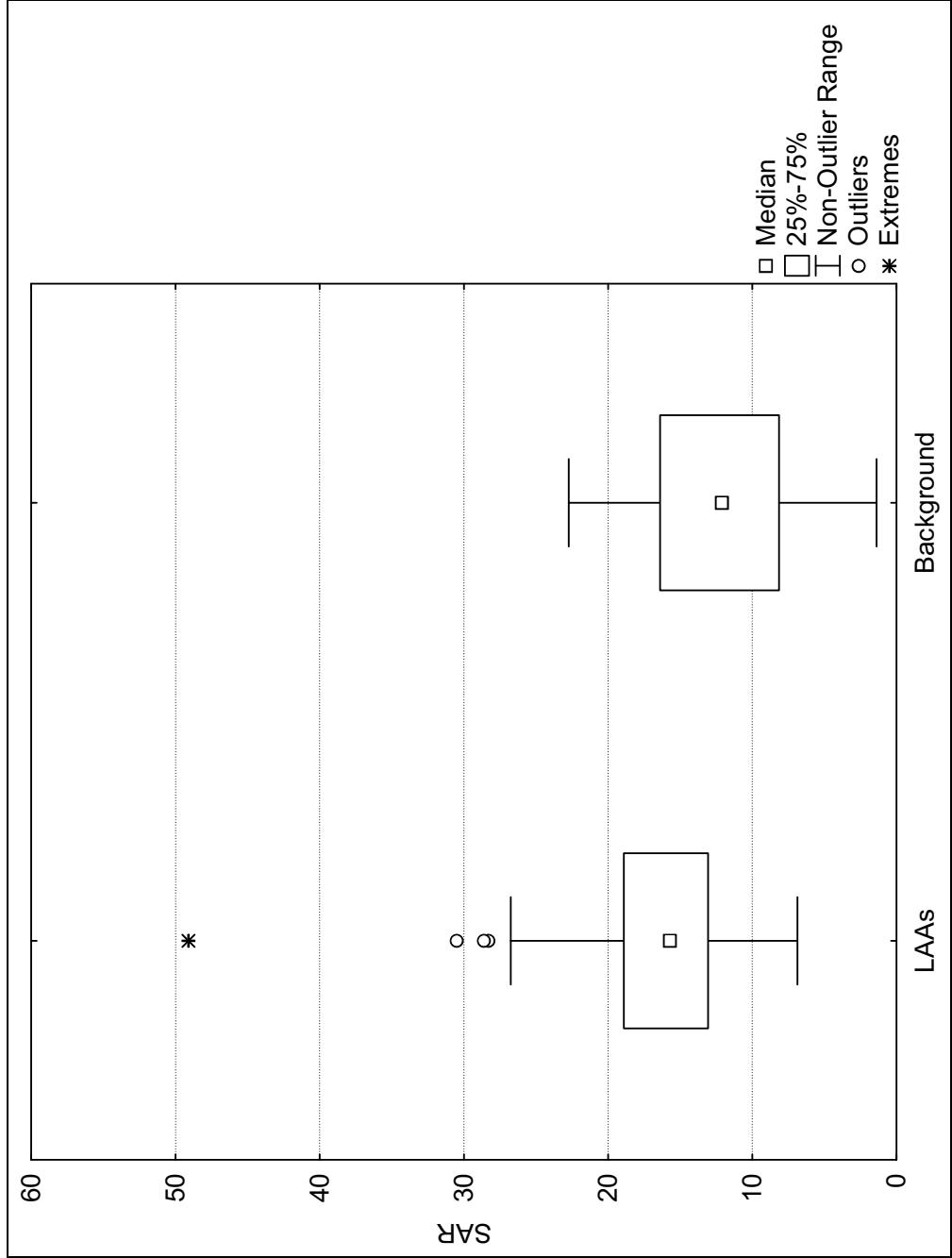
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FIGURE A-5



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**BOX PLOTS OF CATION EXCHANGE CAPACITY
0- TO 6-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

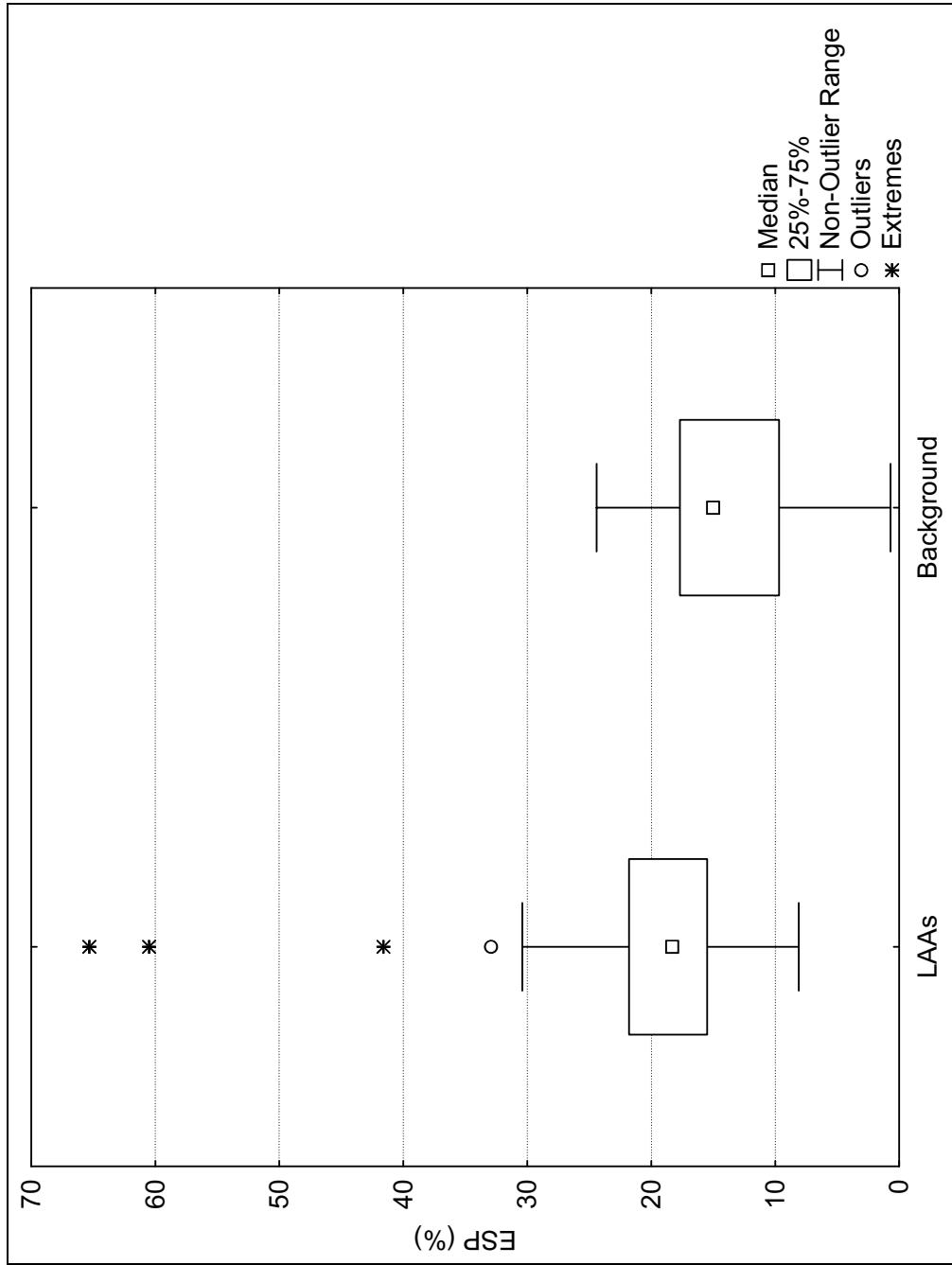
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FIGURE A-6



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**BOX PLOTS OF SODIUM ABSORPTION RATIO
27- TO 39-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

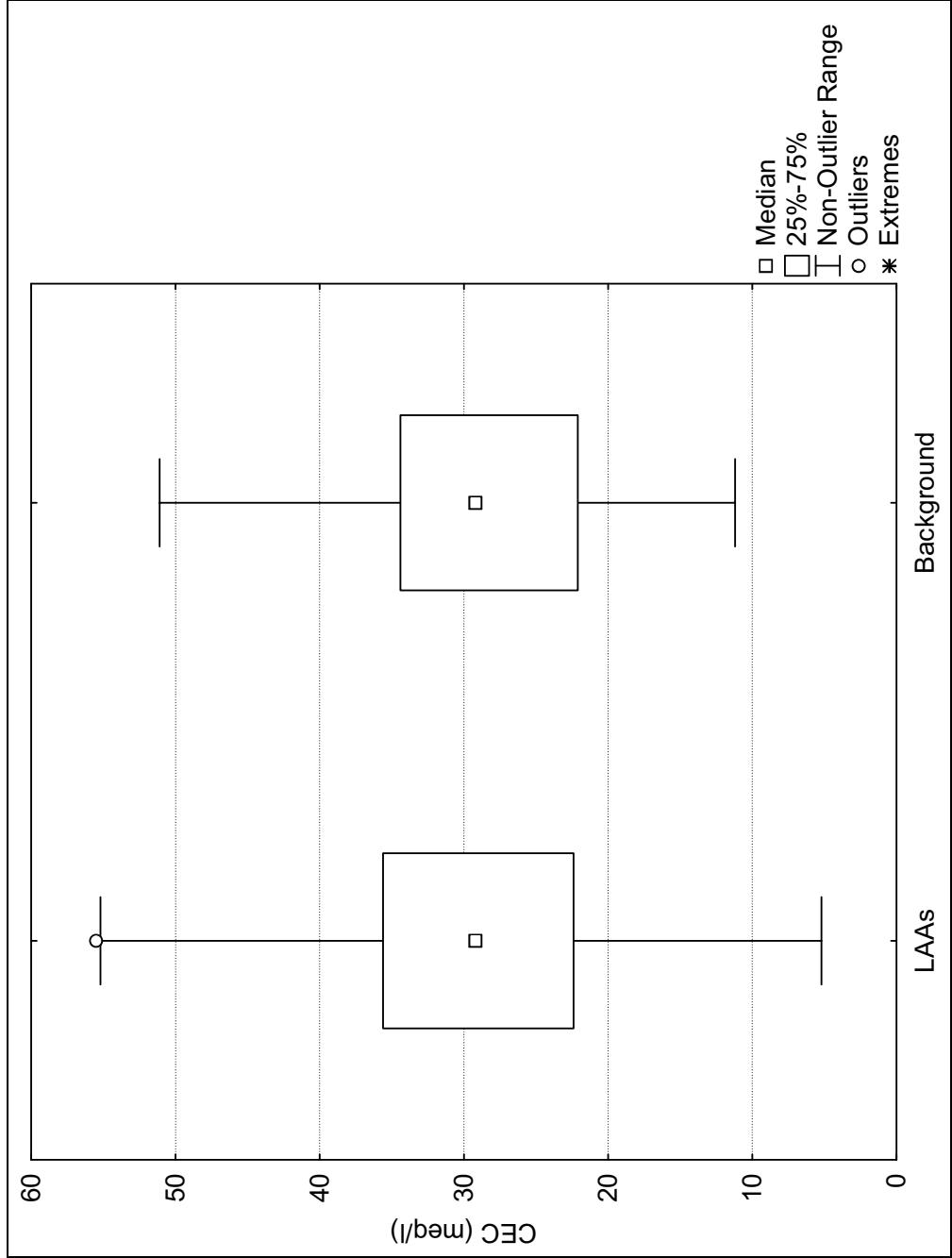
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FIGURE A-7



**BOX PLOTS OF EXCHANGABLE SODIUM PERCENTAGE
27- TO 39-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

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TRACY, CALIFORNIA

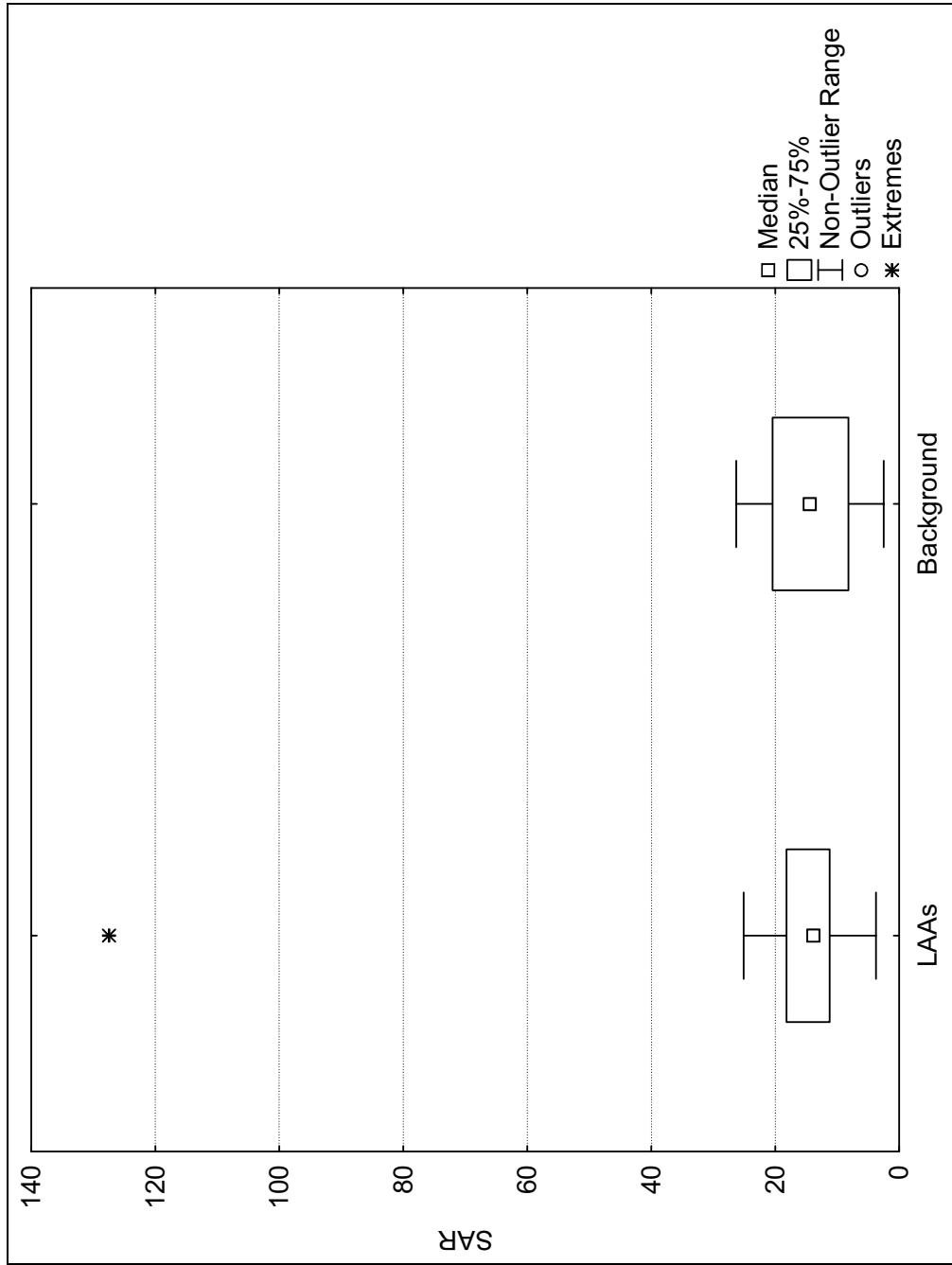
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FIGURE A-8



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**BOX PLOTS OF CATION EXCHANGE CAPACITY
27- TO 39-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

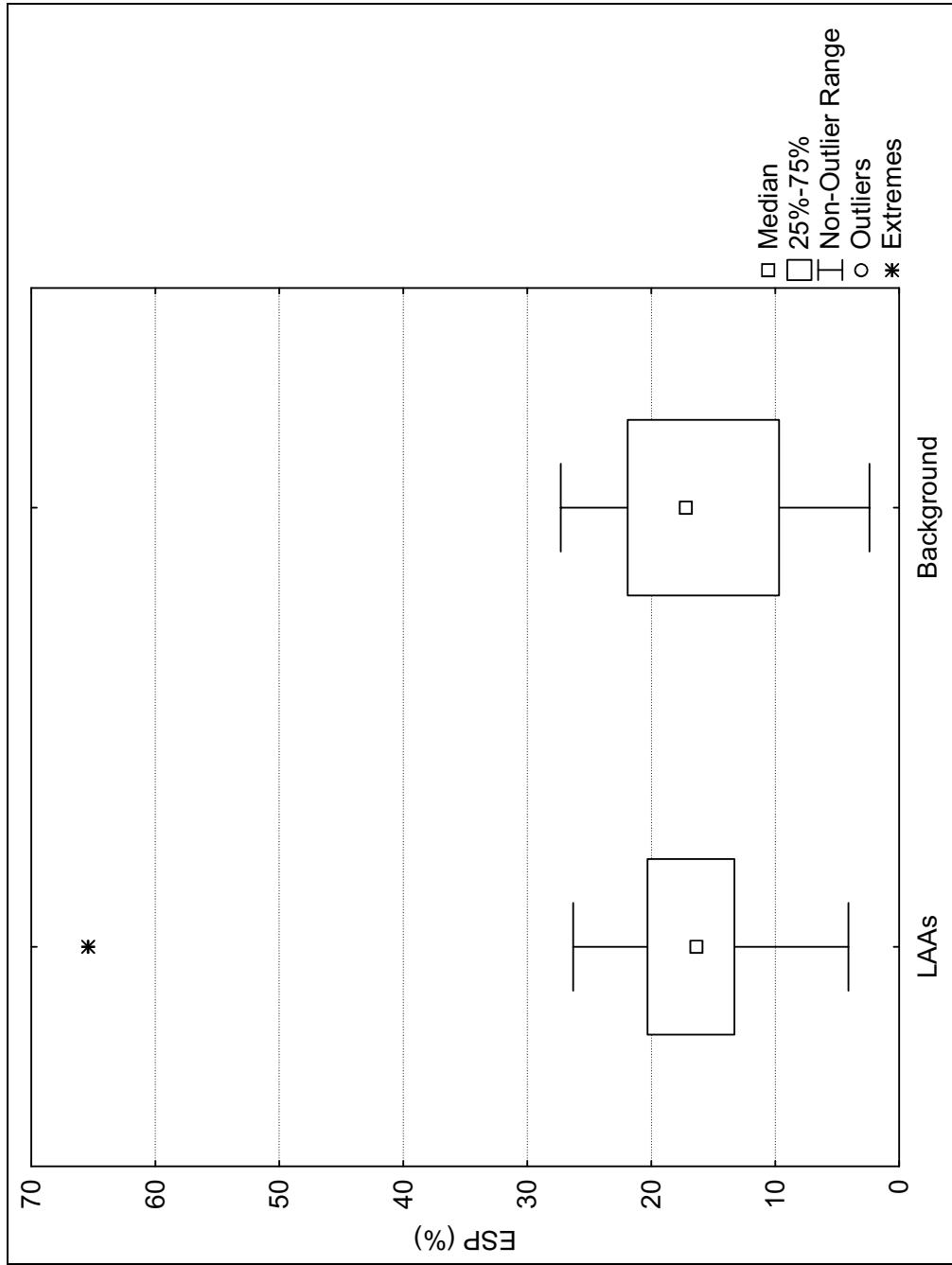
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FIGURE A-9



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**BOX PLOTS OF SODIUM ABSORPTION RATIO
60- TO 72-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

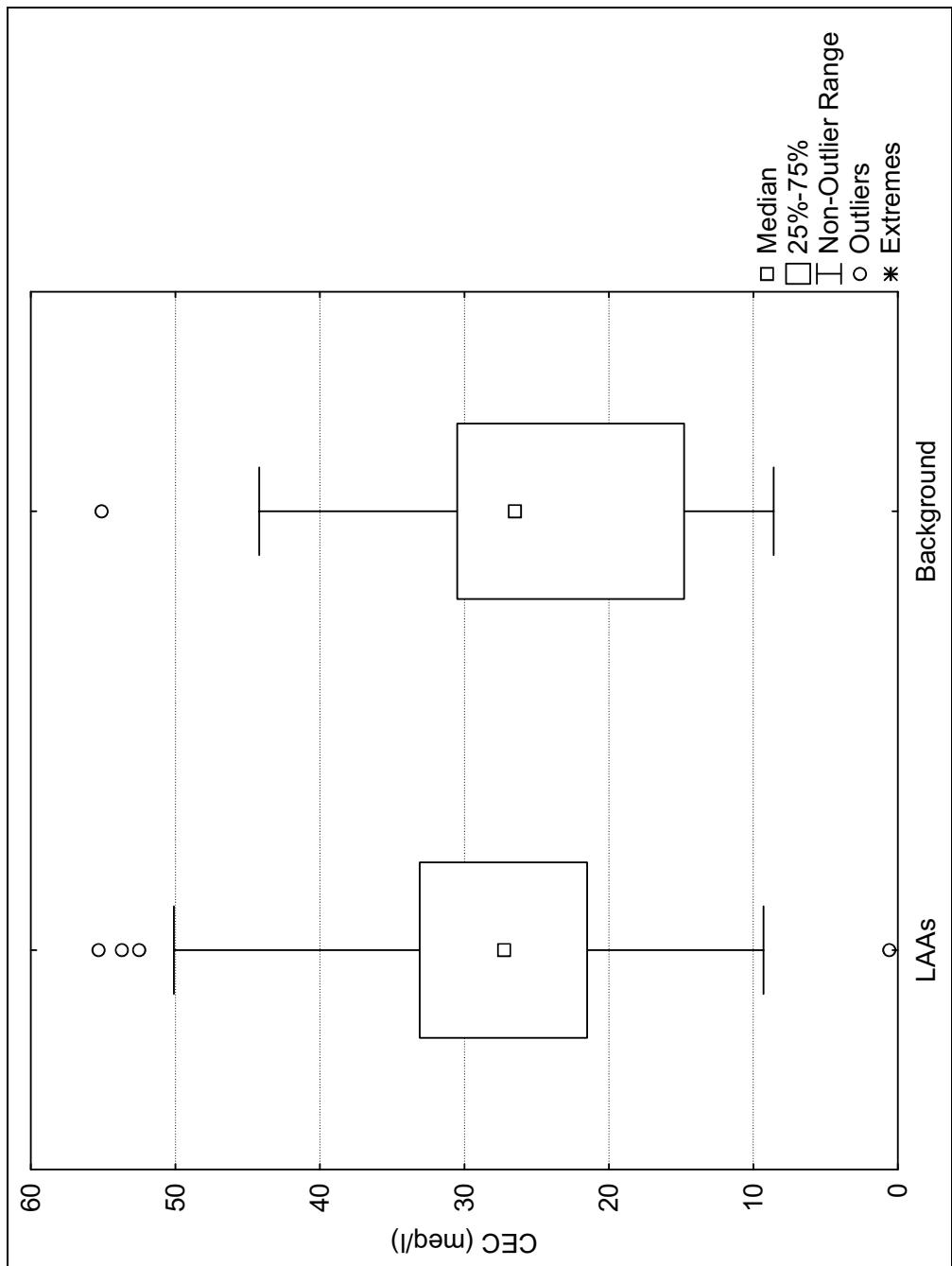
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FIGURE A-10



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**BOX PLOTS OF EXCHANGABLE SODIUM PERCENTAGE
60- TO 72-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

KJ 020104.00
FIGURE A-11



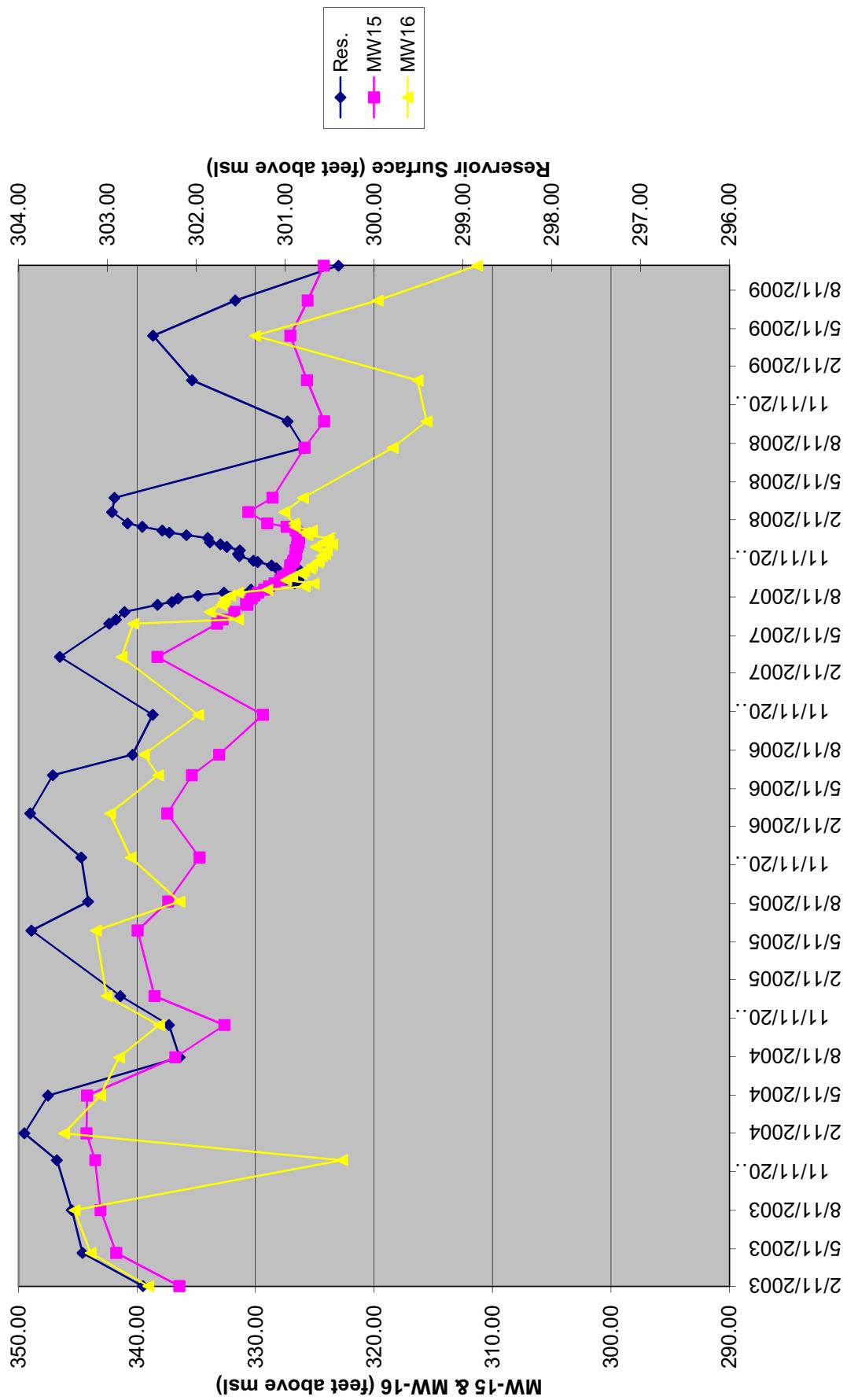
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**BOX PLOTS OF CATION EXCHANGE CAPACITY
60- TO 72-INCH SOIL DEPTH INTERVAL**

KJ 0220104.00
FIGURE A-12

Figure

MW-15 & MW-16 Water Levels and Reservoir Elevation versus Time



CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
ORDER NO. __

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
MUSCO FAMILY OLIVE COMPANY AND THE STUDLEY COMPANY
WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND LAND DISPOSAL FACILITY
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, (hereafter Central Valley Water Board) finds that:

1. Musco Family Olive Company and the Studley Company (hereafter jointly referred to as "Discharger") submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD), dated 30 March 2009 to apply for revised Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for land discharge of olive processing wastewater. Additional information was submitted on various dates in December 2009.
2. The facility is at 17950 Via Nicolo, Tracy, in Section 34, T2S, R4E, and Section 4, T3S, R4E, MDB&M, as shown on Attachment A, which is attached hereto and made part of this Order by reference. The Studley Company owns the land (Assessor's Parcel Numbers 209-11-18, 209-11-31, 209-11-32, 251-32-08, and 251-32-09) and Musco Family Olive Company owns and operates the facility.
3. Wastewater generated at the facility is regulated under two separate WDRs:
 - a. Order No. R5-2005-0024 regulates two Class II surface impoundments that are regulated under Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, §20005 et seq., (hereafter Title 27). The Class II surface impoundments are used to store and evaporate concentrated brines that have been determined to be designated waste.
 - b. Order No. R5-2002-0148 regulates the treatment, storage, and land application of non-designated waste. This Order updates Order No. R5-2002-0148 and only applies to non-designated waste.
4. As set forth in the following findings, the Discharger proposes to continue the discharge of process wastewater to land.

REGULATORY BACKGROUND

5. Musco Family Olive Company processes approximately one-half the total table olive crop in the state. The facility began limited operations in 1983 and full operations in 1992.
6. On 28 February 1997, the Central Valley Water Board approved Resolution No. 97-037 approving an Initial Study and adopting a Negative Declaration to expand the land disposal areas to 200 acres. On the same date, the Central Valley Water Board adopted WDRs Order No. 97-037 authorizing process wastewater discharges of up to 500,000 gallons per day (gpd) on 200 acres of land application areas (LAs).

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO.
MUSCO FAMILY OLIVE COMPANY AND THE STUDLEY COMPANY
WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND LAND DISPOSAL FACILITY
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

-2-

7. In 1999, the Discharger acquired an olive packing facility in Visalia, closed that facility, and transferred the production to Tracy, without first making improvements to its existing wastewater treatment or disposal system. That consolidation lead to an increase in wastewater flow rates and numerous violations of WDRs Order No. 97-037. The Central Valley Water Board responded to the violations with the following enforcement actions, which are described in detail below:
 - a. Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. 5-00-717;
 - b. Time Schedule Order (TSO) No. R5-2002-0014-R01;
 - c. Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R5-2002-0149;
 - d. Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint No. R5-2002-0502 in the amount of \$150,000 for failure to comply with CAO No. 5-00-717;
 - e. ACL Complaint No. R5-2004-0534 in the amount of \$493,500 for failure to comply with certain requirements set forth in TSO No. R5-2002-0014-R01;
 - f. ACL and Penalty Order No. R5-2007-0138, the Stipulation for Entry of Administrative Civil Liability and Penalty Order (Stipulated Order); and
 - g. Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. R5-2007-0139.
8. On 17 November 2000 the Executive Officer issued CAO No. 5-00-717, which required the Discharger to prepare technical reports and construct wastewater treatment system improvements to comply with WDRs Order No. 97-037 by 1 November 2001. The Discharger ~~did not~~ was **unable to fully** comply with the CAO and, therefore, the Central Valley Water Board adopted TSO No. R5-2002-0014 on 25 January 2002. The TSO authorized an interim increase in the flow limits and increased effluent limits for fixed dissolved solids (FDS) from April 2002 through 6 September 2002. Among other requirements, the TSO required control of nuisance odors; installation of groundwater monitoring wells; an evaluation of the domestic wastewater disposal system; construction of process wastewater treatment improvements; and expanded cropping of the wastewater land application areas.
9. On 9 April 2002, the Executive Officer issued ACL Complaint No. R5-2002-0502 in the amount of \$150,000, which addressed civil liabilities incurred by the Discharger for failure to comply with CAO No. 5-00-717 from 17 November 2000 through 25 January 2002. The Discharger paid the liability in full.
10. On 6 June 2002, the Central Valley Water Board revised the terms of the TSO by adopting TSO No. R5-2002-0014-R01. The revised TSO authorized another flow increase and an additional month to complete construction of an 84-million gallon wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. On the same day, the Central Valley Water Board issued WDRs Order No. R5-2002-0148 and CAO Order No. R5-2002-0149 to address continuing violations of the WDRs.

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WDRs Order No. R5-2002-0148 allowed discharge to the LAAs of up to 800,000 gpd and required the Discharger to submit the following technical reports:

- a. A work plan for additional characterization of groundwater;
- b. Proposed storm water bypass criteria for the LAAs;
- c. A Salinity Source Reduction Plan;
- d. An Operations and Maintenance Plan for the wastewater treatment systems and the LAAs;
- e. A Waste Assimilative Capacity Report for the LAAs;
- f. A Solid Waste Management Plan;
- g. A Monitoring Well and Lysimeter Installation Report;
- h. A Domestic Wastewater Septic System Improvement Installation Report; and
- i. A Background Groundwater Quality and Percolate Quality Report.

CAO No. R5-2002-0149 set forth a schedule for compliance with increasingly stringent effluent salinity limitations as tabulated below.

Constituent	Effluent Limitation and Compliance Date		
	6 September 2002	6 September 2003	6 September 2004
TDS (mg/L)	4,700	3,373	2,047
Sodium (mg/L)	739	668	597

11. On 6 August 2004, the Executive Officer issued ACL Complaint No. R5-2004-0534 in the amount of \$493,500 for failure to comply with certain requirements set forth in TSO No. R5-2002-0014-R01 from 25 January 2002 through 31 May 2004. Subsequent to the issuance of the ACL Complaint, the Discharger and the Executive Officer agreed to settle the matter without a formal hearing. The Central Valley Water Board approved ACL and Penalty Order No. R5-2007-0138, the Stipulation for Entry of Administrative Civil Liability and Penalty Order (Stipulated Order) on 26 October 2007. The Stipulated Order required that the Discharger do the following:
 - a. Pay the \$493,500 administrative civil liability in four installments between 15 April 2008 and 15 October 2009.
 - b. Submit a Site Closure and Maintenance Report by 31 December 2007. The report was to include a short-term maintenance plan for the site to assure that no discharges of waste from the site occur via surface water drainages after the Discharger ceases operations; a plan for the complete closure of the site; a detailed plan for post-closure

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maintenance and monitoring of the site; and a cost estimate for completing corrective action for all known or reasonably foreseeable releases from the site that pose a threat to water quality. This closure plan is separate from the closure requirements for the Class II surface impoundments regulated under WDRs Order No. R5-2005-0024.

c. Submit a Financial Assurances Report to the Executive Officer within 60 days of approval of the Site Closure and Maintenance Report. This report was to describe proposed mechanisms and a time schedule to obtain financial assurances to ensure that funds are available to implement the approved closure plan and a time schedule for obtaining financial assurances.

d. Within 60 days of approval of the Financial Assurances Report, provide proof that the Discharger has obtained financial assurances consistent with the approved Financial Assurances Report and in accordance with the approved time schedule in the Report.

The Discharger has paid the civil liability in full and timely submitted the required Site Closure and Maintenance Report. The proposed plan for site closure is discussed in later findings.

12. Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2007-0139 was adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 26 October 2007 to provide interim effluent limits for TDS, FDS, and sodium. Based in part on facility and operational changes proposed by the Discharger, the CDO required the following:
- a. Replacement of an unlined pond used as a pumping sump to deliver wastewater to the LAAs (the "million-gallon pond") with an above-ground tank (the reservoir surge tank, or RST);
 - b. Characterization of soil contamination at the former million-gallon pond site;
 - c. A wastewater treatment facility capacity evaluation report;
 - d. An assessment of the LAAs' capacity to assimilate the applied waste constituents without impacting groundwater quality;
 - e. A phased supplemental groundwater investigation to determine background groundwater quality and the extent of groundwater degradation;
 - f. A storm water and tailwater capacity evaluation report;
 - g. A storm water and tailwater system improvement report **documenting, among other things, that the storm water and tailwater conveyance systems are able to convey and contain on-site and without using the natural drainage course the storm water generated by the 1,000-year, 24-hour precipitation event,**
 - h. An annual wet season preparation report;
 - i. An enhanced evaporation pilot scale study evaluation report; and
 - j. A Report of Waste Discharge.

The Discharger submitted all of the required reports.

PROCESSING OPERATIONS AND WASTE CHARACTER

13. The facility processes and cans olives year round and generates wastewater with high organic strength and high salinity. Processing generally consists of receiving olives, storing them in acetic acid solution, curing in sodium hydroxide (lye), pitting, and canning in a brine solution. Attachment B, which is attached hereto and made part of this Order by reference, is a simplified process schematic.
14. Fresh olives are received at the facility during the harvest period (typically September through early November) each year. Approximately 80 percent of the olives are flumed into storage tanks that contain a solution of acetic acid, calcium chloride and sodium benzoate. The remainder is flumed directly to the processing plant. The stored olives are processed as needed from December through August.
15. The facility has 1,383 olive storage tanks ranging in size from 2,300 gallons to 9,702 gallons for a total of approximately 45,000 tons of storage capacity. Up to 8,000 tons of olives can be processed fresh during the harvest season, for a total harvest capacity of 53,000 tons.
16. The facility can process approximately 1,000 tons of olives per week for a total processing capacity of 52,000 tons per year. Over the past five years, an average of 31,000 tons of olives was processed each year.
17. The Discharger obtains its process water from the nearby California Aqueduct and has been monitoring the process water quality semiannually since December 2007. The character of the raw process water supply based on data presented in the RWD is summarized below.

Constituent	Units	No. of Samples	Process Water Supply Analytical Result		
			Minimum	Maximum	Mean
EC	umhos/cm	16 ¹	173	693	401
TDS	mg/L	16 ¹	104	390	229
Total alkalinity as CaCO ₃	mg/L	16 ¹	58	90	71
Bicarbonate alkalinity as CaCO ₃	mg/L	4 ²	80	110	97
Hardness as CaCO ₃	mg/L	16 ¹	52	127	88
Chloride	mg/L	16 ¹	13	120	62
Sodium	mg/L	16 ¹	14	79	41

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Constituent	Units	No. of Samples	Process Water Supply Analytical Result		
			Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Sulfate	mg/L	16 ¹	40	52	27
Iron	mg/L	15 ¹	<0.005	0.310	0.055 ³
Calcium	mg/L	16 ¹	11	24	17
Magnesium	mg/L	16 ¹	6	15	11

¹ Includes data from 12 monitoring events completed by the Department of Water Resources at the Harvey Banks pumping plant in 2003 and 2004.

² Includes data from four monitoring events completed by the Discharger in 2007 and 2008.

³ Calculated using one-half of the reporting limit for five non-detect results.

Based on these data, the process water supply exhibits low salinity and moderate hardness. Prior to use, the Discharger treats the raw water by polymer flocculation, clarification, granulated media filtration and chlorine disinfection. Water supplied to the boiler is also routed through an ion exchange water softening system that is regenerated with sodium chloride.

18. The olive brining process generates several liquid waste streams, some of which are discharged to the Class II surface impoundments for disposal. The rest are discharged to the land discharge system. The land discharge system includes the reservoir surge tank (RST), which is used to collect untreated wastewater; an 84-million gallon wastewater treatment and storage reservoir; and the LAAs themselves. All wastewater discharged to the LAAs receives treatment in the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir prior to discharge. The individual liquid waste streams are listed below with their corresponding discharge locations, and are depicted schematically on Attachment B. When capacity is available in the Class II surface impoundments, some waste streams normally discharged to the land discharge system are discharged to the impoundments to minimize the flow and salt loadings on the LAAs.

Waste Stream Number ¹	Description	Discharge Location
1	Filter backwash	Land discharge system ²
2	Pre-rinse water	Land discharge system ²
3	Neutralization brine	Class II surface impoundments
4	Neutralization rinse water	Land discharge system ²

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Waste Stream ¹ Number	Description	Discharge Location
5	Ferrous gluconate	Land discharge system ²
6	First ferrous gluconate rinse	Land discharge system ²
7	Second ferrous gluconate rinse	Land discharge system ²
8	Transport water	Land discharge system ²
9	Pitter start tank water	Land discharge system ²
10	Accumulation tank	Land discharge system ²
11	Floatation brine	Class II surface impoundments
12	Cooker cooling water	Land discharge system ²
13	Boiler blowdown	Class II surface impoundments
14	Canning floor drains	Land discharge system ²
--	Sanitation	Land discharge system ²
--	Water softener regeneration brine	Class II surface impoundments
--	Flume water ³	Land discharge system ²

¹ Corresponds to liquid waste stream numbers on the process schematic (Attachment B).

² Waste streams discharged to the land discharge system receive treatment prior to discharge to the LAA's.

³ Flume water is only generated during the harvest season (September through early November).

The olive storage and processing tanks are outdoors in unroofed areas. Secondary containment berms are used to capture process spills and precipitation that falls on the containment areas, which have a total area of approximately 307,000 square feet (7 acres). Water that collects in the containment areas is directed via drains to sumps equipped with electrical conductivity meters. If the EC is less than 4,800 umhos/cm, the water is pumped to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir via the RST. Otherwise, it is pumped to the Class II surface impoundments.

19. Wastewater flow rates are variable from month to month depending on production. The following table summarizes average daily flows to the Wastewater treatment/storage reservoir from 2003 through 2008. Total annual flows to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir ranged from 100 million gallons (MG) per year to 217 MG per year from 2000 through 2008. These flows account for both process wastewater and low salinity storm water collected in the outdoor processing areas.

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	2003-2008 Average Daily Wastewater Flow (gpd)		
Month	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
January	175,922	402,060	268,547
February	251,757	491,704	324,654
March	267,750	511,593	317,374
April	89,999	577,919	327,372
May	258,318	656,809	347,786
June	314,494	761,128	406,607
July	3,207	792,903	316,017
August	0	708,722	352,497
September	27,778	742,870	376,834
October	423,627	704,632	490,224
November	249,971	540,849	341,931
December	80,028	401,522	167,895

20. Based on eight sampling events during one week in September 2008, the chemical character and relative flow contribution of the individual process waste streams is summarized below. These waste streams are discharged as individual batches to the RST. Five batches are processed each week, though the size of the batches may vary.

Waste Stream	Percentage of Total Influent Flow ¹	Mean of Influent Analytical Results			
		BOD ² (mg/L)	FDS (mg/L)	Sodium Chloride (mg/L)	Bicarbonate (mg/L)
Filter backwash	4	35	208	35	51
Pre-rinse water	7	3,903	1,046	93	330
Neutralization rinse	7	5,450	5,180	1,477	349
Ferrous gluconate	7	2,045	1,824	532	234
1 st Ferrous rinse	7	1,171	899	306	150
2 nd Ferrous rinse	7	845	526	206	136
Transport water	11	294	285	110	118
Start tank water	-- ³	410	500	208	121
					250

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Waste Stream	Percentage of Total Influent Flow ¹	Mean of Influent Analytical Results			
		BOD ² (mg/L)	FDS (mg/L)	Sodium (mg/L)	Bicarbonate (mg/L)
Accumulation tank	14	3,206	728	270	117
Cooker cooling water	12	42	258	95	129
Canning floor drains ⁴	14	--	--	--	--
Sanitation ⁴	7	--	--	--	--
Flume water ^{4,5}	--	--	--	--	--

¹ The estimated total flow excludes flume water, which is only generated during the harvest season.

² Biochemical oxygen demand.

³ Start tank water flow rate was measured in combination with the transport water flow rate. The two streams together total approximately 11 percent of the total flow to the RST.

⁴ Waste stream character not provided in RWD.

⁵ Flume water is only generated during the harvest season

21. The wastewater collection system consists of floor drains within the processing plant, various collection tanks and sumps, a solids separator, the 200,000-gallon RST and the 84-million gallon, 16-acre, aerated wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. The reservoir was constructed in a natural drainage swale with an earthen dam. The reservoir is shown on Attachment C, which is attached hereto and made part of the Order by reference. Because of the reservoir's volume and geometry, operation and maintenance of the dam is regulated by the State Department of Water Resources' Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD).
22. Wastewater treatment consists of carbon dioxide or organic acid neutralization of alkaline rinse waters, solids removal by static 60-mil parabolic screens, and aeration. The wastewater treatment/storage reservoir is equipped with eleven aerators. Lye solutions are reclaimed through the addition of sodium hydroxide in above-ground stainless steel storage tanks. Spent lye solutions are periodically discharged to the Class II surface impoundments.

23. Wastewater that is discharged to the Wastewater treatment/storage reservoir is characterized by high organic content and elevated salinity¹. Based on laboratory

¹ Total dissolved solids (TDS), fixed dissolved solids (FDS) and electrical conductivity (EC) are all valid salinity indicator constituents. However, TDS is not the best salinity indicator when the degradable organic content of the waste is high because dissolved organic matter contributes to the TDS value and overstates the actual salinity. In such cases, FDS is the preferred salinity indicator because the test method does not measure most dissolved organic constituents. EC is often still a good salinity indicator when dissolved organic matter

(Footnote continues on the next page.)

analysis of weekly grab samples obtained from the RST in 2008, the character of the raw wastewater discharged into the aerated wastewater treatment/storage reservoir is summarized below.

Constituent	Units	Raw Wastewater Results for 2008 (Discharge from the RST)		
		Minimum	Maximum	Mean
BOD	mg/L	647	6,500	3,181
TDS	mg/L	1,140	4,320	2,838
FDS	mg/L	680	2,380	1,517
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	5	128	40
Nitrate Nitrogen	mg/L	<0.1	3.3	0.7
Total Nitrogen ¹	mg/L	7	128	41
Chloride	mg/L	140	510	252
Sodium	mg/L	89	777	462

¹ Estimated as the sum of Total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN) and nitrate nitrogen.

24. The character of treated effluent discharged from the wastewater treatment/storage reservoirs to the LAAs is summarized below based on laboratory analysis of weekly grab samples obtained from the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir in 2008.

Constituent	Units	Treated Effluent Results for 2008 (Discharged to the LAAs)		
		Minimum	Maximum	Mean
BOD	mg/L	81	2,100	598
TDS	mg/L	2,240	4,790	2,986
FDS	mg/L	1,830	2,930	2,316
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	3	235	47
Nitrate Nitrogen	mg/L	<0.1	1.0	0.18
Total Nitrogen ¹	mg/L	3	235	47

is present in the waste, but some dissolved organic compounds can contribute to EC. Because the Discharger's wastewater contains high concentrations of dissolved organic matter, this Order uses FDS data to the maximum practical extent to characterize and regulate the wastewater discharge.

Constituent	Units	Treated Effluent Results for 2008 (Discharged to the LAAs)		
		Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Chloride	mg/L	33	500	355
Sodium	mg/L	417	3,830	816

¹ Estimated as the sum of TKN and nitrate nitrogen.

These data indicate that the treatment system currently achieves approximately 81 percent BOD reduction. The approximately 53 percent increase in salinity between the raw wastewater and treated effluent (measured as FDS) is attributable to evapoconcentration within the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir.

25. The RWD requested that the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir operational limits imposed by the current WDRs and CDO be revised~~hexed~~ as follows:
- Reduce the minimum dissolved oxygen (DO) concentration from 2.0 to 1.0 mg/L;
 - Remove the maximum dissolved sulfide concentration of 0.1 mg/L; and
 - Remove the pH limit of 7.5 to 8.5.

The current reservoir operational limits were imposed to control nuisance odors. However, almost seven years of daily monitoring data indicate no correlation between the concentration of dissolved sulfide in the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and nuisance odors. Additionally, dissolved sulfide has only occasionally been detected since the reservoir aerators were installed in 2003.

The Discharger has consistently complied with the current DO limit since November 2007. However, between 2003 and November 2007, DO concentrations in the treatment/storage reservoir ranged from 0 to 8.0 mg/L and typically were greater than 2.0 mg/L only for brief periods. During that time, there were no odor complaints. Comparison of historical effluent BOD concentrations and the corresponding reservoir DO concentrations indicate that BOD removal might not be significantly reduced by decreasing the reservoir DO limit to 1.0 mg/L.

Between June 2003 and December 2008, the pH in the treatment/storage reservoir has typically ranged between 6.5 and 9.0. The lowest recorded pH value was 5.5 and the highest was 10.9. The record does not indicate a correlation between pH and odors.

Based on the foregoing, it is appropriate to remove the dissolved sulfide limit and revise the operational limits for DO and pH to the limits that are usually imposed for food processing discharges.

LAND APPLICATION SYSTEM

26. The entire facility consists of 280 acres, of which approximately 80 acres are used for the processing plant. Of the remaining 200 acres, approximately 171 acres are currently used for land application of process wastewater. The remaining **40-29** acres consist of service roads, environmentally sensitive areas, and approximately 11 acres left fallow due to regulatory constraints. The LAAs are shown on Attachment C and the area of each LAA is provided below.

Land Application Area	Useable Acreage	First Year of Use	Slope
18 North	18.8	2001	Fairly level
Checks	11	2001 ¹	Level terraces
Evaporation South	2.2	2000	Moderate
Evaporation West	3.1	2000	Fairly level
Field 55 (East and West)	21.5	1992	Moderate to steep
Field 95 (1 st , 2 nd , and 3 rd Swales)	102	1995	Moderate to steep
Park West	2.2	2000	Moderate to slight
Pasture	3.2	2000	Moderate
South Ridge (East and West)	13.7	2001	Moderate
Spur North	4.2	2000	Fairly level

¹ This LAA was used only in 2001 and 2002 as discussed below.

The "Checks" LAA was used in only 2001 and 2002, when it functioned as a shallow percolation pond. Because this use caused nuisance odors, WDRs Order No. R5-2002-0148 prohibited further use of this area unless the Discharger demonstrated that off-site odor problems would be prevented. Since then, the Discharger has successfully used wastewater for irrigating the neighboring LAAs without further odor complaints. Therefore, there is no longer a reason to prohibit discharge to the Checks LAA in compliance with the conditions of this Order.

27. Wastewater is applied to the LAAs by sprinkler irrigation. An **ephemeral natural**-surface water drainage exists in the land application areas (see Attachment C). The Discharger constructed ditches to prevent tailwater from draining into the surface water drainage. Irrigation tailwater is pumped to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir for recycling. Likewise, all storm water runoff from the LAAs **drains-is routed** to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir.

28. Attempts to grow fodder crops such as Sudan grass and winter barley ~~were~~ became unsuccessful **over time** due to **increasing salinity of the surface soil**.~~the salinity of the waste.~~ In 2004, the Discharger planted a 20-acre experimental plot of NyPa Forage™, a patented clone of *Distichlis spicata*, which is commonly known as salt grass.
29. According to the producer, NyPa Forage™ grows from rhizomes and produces well in waterlogged saline environments, such as salt marshes, where the rooting depth can extend as deep as 36 inches. The Discharger states that site-specific observations suggest that NyPa Forage™ grows well in the saturated heavy clay soils found at the site. Although little above ground growth occurs during the winter months, there is sufficient root and rhizome growth to facilitate the expansion of the crop into bare areas. NyPa species are halophytes (salt lovers) and take up salt with water through the roots. Some of the salt is stored in the plant tissue and some is exuded by the plants' leaves. The salt crystals can be dislodged by subsequent irrigation and precipitation events. According to the producer, NyPa Forage™ grows from rhizomes and produces well in waterlogged saline environments, such as salt marshes, where the rooting depth can extend as deep as 36 inches. In unsaturated conditions, the roots may extend as little as two inches below the rhizomes.² The fastest spread reportedly occurs in sandy soils. However, the Discharger states that site-specific observations suggest that NyPa Forage™ grows quickly in the saturated heavy-clay soils found at the site. NyPa species are halophytes (salt lovers) and take up salt with water through the roots. Some of the salt is stored in the plant tissue and some is exuded by the plants' leaves. The salt crystals can be dislodged by subsequent irrigation and precipitation events.
30. According to the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), *Distichlis spicata* is a slow-growing perennial that actively grows in the spring through autumn months, and is dormant during the winter. It is well-adapted to fine-grained soils, is moderately drought tolerant, requires moderate amounts of fertilizer, and will tolerate a minimum soil pH of 6.4. In unsaturated conditions, the roots may extend as little as two inches below the rhizomes.³ The fastest spread reportedly occurs in sandy soils. According to the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), *Distichlis spicata* is a slow-growing perennial that actively grows in the spring through autumn months, and is dormant during the winter. It is well-adapted to fine-grained soils, is moderately drought tolerant, requires moderate amounts of fertilizer, and will tolerate a minimum soil pH of 6.4.

² Based on Conservation Plant Characteristics, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, plants database for *Distichlis spicata* (

³ Based on Conservation Plant Characteristics, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, plants database for *Distichlis spicata* (

31. NyPa Forage™ can be used as feed for ruminants, and the Discharger currently sells the harvested crop for that purpose. The Discharger states that yields can reach 11 tons per acre with balanced fertilization.
32. In the last two years, the Discharger has expanded the NyPa Forage™ cultivation to all of the LAAs. The Discharger states that tail water return and storm water runoff have been greatly reduced on established NyPa fields (especially on the steeper LAAs), and that erosion has been eliminated on fully established fields. Based on the RWD and a site inspection on 16 June 2009, estimated NyPa Forage™ canopy coverage as of June 2009 is summarized below. A detailed canopy cover evaluation was conducted in November 2008 and is described in the *Final Report on Assimilative Capacity Study*. A second canopy evaluation at the same locations of the 2008 assessment was conducted in December 2009, as discussed below. In the last two years, the Discharger has expanded the NyPa Forage™ cultivation to all of the LAAs. The Discharger states that tail water return and storm water runoff have been greatly reduced on established NyPa fields (especially on the steeper LAAs), and that erosion has been eliminated on fully established fields. Based on the RWD and a site inspection on 16 June 2009, estimated NyPa Forage™ canopy coverage as of June 2009 is summarized below. A re-thorough canopy evaluation was conducted in December 2009, as discussed below.

Land Application Area	Total Area (Acres)	NyPa Coverage (Percent of Optimal)
18 North	18.8	70%
Checks	11	0%
Evaporation South	2.2	Not estimated
Evaporation West	3.1	65%
Field 55 East	8	40%
Field 55 West	13.5	70%
Field 95 Acres	102	Less than 40%
Park West	2.2	Not estimated
Pasture	3.2	65%
South Ridge East	7.3	Less than 80%
South Ridge West	6.4	75%
Spur North	4.2	60%

¹ The western half of this LAA (known as the second and third swale areas) has less complete coverage than the eastern half (known as the first swale).

33. Based on laboratory testing of NyPa forage harvested from the Discharger's LAs in 2008, the total salt content on a dry weight basis was 10.5 to 12.5%, and the sodium and chloride content was 6.2 to 6.5% on a dry weight basis. The Discharger estimates that a fully established NyPa forage crop on 160 acres of LAs may remove up to 110 tons of salt per year, including 57 tons of sodium and chloride. The 2006 crop analysis data from harvested material indicate that approximately 40 percent of the salt taken up by the crop was on the outside of the plants. Based on a December 2009 re-evaluation of NyPa coverage, the Discharger estimates that the current canopy cover is 51 percent as a site-wide average. The oldest plantings of NyPa at the site, on the 18 North and South Ridge LAs, demonstrate that canopy cover of 80% or more can be achieved. Based on laboratory testing of NyPa forage harvested from the Discharger's LAs in 2008, the total salt content on a dry weight basis was 10.5 to 12.5%, and the sodium and chloride content was 6.2 to 6.5% on a dry weight basis. The Discharger estimates that a fully established NyPa forage crop on 160 acres of LAs may remove up to 110 tons of salt per year, including 57 tons of sodium and chloride. However, 2006 crop analysis data collected at harvest indicate that approximately 40 percent of the salt taken up by the crop is on the outside of the plant and is therefore vulnerable to being washed back onto the LAAs soil by irrigation and precipitation. Additionally, the Discharger acknowledges that it will be difficult to achieve 100% crop coverage given the crop needs and site-specific conditions. Based on a December 2009 re-evaluation of NyPa coverage, the Discharger estimates that the current canopy cover is 51 percent as a site-wide average. Based on the oldest plantings of NyPa at the site on the 18 North and South Ridge LAs, the Discharger believes that canopy cover of 80% or more can be achieved.
34. Since adoption of the current WDRs, the Discharger has implemented several process changes, equipment modifications, and modifications to the process wastewater collection system to minimize the volume and reduce the salinity of the wastewater discharged to the LAs. These changes include:
 - a. Converting to a closed loop fluming system;
 - b. Reclaiming and recycling lye solutions and other process streams;
 - c. Using carbon dioxide to neutralize residual lye in the olives instead of rinsing several times in fresh water;
 - d. Reducing the concentration of acetic acid used for olive storage solution;
 - e. Changing the floatation brine solution less frequently; and
 - f. Housekeeping changes to reduce water use and capture high salinity spillage for discharge to the Class II surface impoundments.

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Based on daily flow monitoring and weekly FDS monitoring data provided in the RWD, wastewater volumes and the salinity mass discharged from the processing plant to the treatment/storage reservoir from 2004 through 2009 are summarized below.

Year	Range	Monthly Average FDS Concentration (mg/L)	Mean	Range of Total Monthly Flows (MG)	Range of FDS Mass (tons)	Total Annual Flow (MG)	Total Annual FDS Mass (tons)
2004	1,500 to 2,600	2,100	2.8 to 17.1	18 to 176	147	1,305	
2005	1,300 to 2,700	1,900	2.5 to 22.3	14 to 206	167	1,365	
2006	1,400 to 2,500	2,000	4.2 to 18.3	21 to 194	141	1,202	
2007 ¹	1,700 to 2,700	2,000	0 to 19.9	0 to 167	91	754	
2008	1,300 to 1,900	1,500	7.6 to 13.5	50 to 101	139	879	
2009 ^{2,3}	900 to 1,700	1,400	0.25 to 11.4	1 to 81	81	493	

¹ The processing plant did not operate for approximately 2½ months beginning in early July and ending in mid-September.

² The processing plant did not operate for approximately ~~30-days total~~³ months total from July through September.

³ Data for December 2009 were not available. Tabulated values are estimated based on the assumption that flows and FDS concentrations for December 2009 are the same as November 2009.

As indicated by these data, the average FDS concentration of the raw wastewater has decreased significantly in the last two years, as has the maximum monthly FDS mass. Excluding the data from 2007 and 2009 (when the plant was closed for significant periods), the total annual FDS mass has also decreased since 2004 through 2006 despite relatively constant total annual wastewater volumes.

35. The Discharger submitted a water balance to show the capacity of the LAA treatment, storage and disposal system. The water balance model was based on local historical climate data; site topography; wastewater treatment/storage reservoir geometry; and reasonable estimates of NyPa crop coverage, crop evapotranspiration, and runoff coefficients. Based on the current site-wide average crop coverage of 51 percent, the land discharge system's hydraulic capacity during the 100-year 365-day precipitation event is summarized in the following table.

Site Condition/Capacity	Value
Crop Coverage	51%
Runoff Coefficient	40%
Wastewater Flow Capacity ¹ :	
Total Annual Flow	180 MG
Annual Average Flow	493,000 gpd
Peak Month Average Flow	716,000 gpd

¹ Measured as the combined flow of wastewater and storm water from the RST to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir.

It is appropriate to limit flows to the current capacity. However, if the Discharger is successfully sustains crop coverage that is significantly greater than current conditions, the flow limits may be increased, subject to further environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (if needed) and revision of this Order.

The Discharger has the ability to cease operations as needed to control wastewater flows, and has typically closed the processing plant several days per year for the last several years. Although the water balance model is reasonable and even conservative in some aspects, it did not account for the accumulation of sludge in the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir, and the RWD did not discuss periodic sludge removal as a maintenance practice. Because of the high strength of the waste, sludge accumulation in the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir could potentially impact storage capacity significantly in a relatively short time frame. **Therefore, this order requires that the Discharger regularly monitor the effects of sludge accumulation on storage capacity and provide a detailed plan for periodic sludge removal and disposal.**

OTHER WASTE STREAMS

- 36. Residual solids include olive pits, stems, waste olives, and screened solids. The olive pits and stems are sold as biomass and burned at cogeneration plants or pulverized and incorporated into compost. Waste olives are transported offsite for animal feed or offsite land disposal. The Discharger is developing an onsite process to burn the pits to operate a stream generation system which is discussed further below. Residuals from this process will not be discharged onsite.
- 37. Approximately **350-200** employees **currently** work at the facility. Domestic wastewater is discharged to an on-site septic system regulated by the San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department. The septic system, located in the former LAA called "Evaporation North", was expanded in 2003. **The septic system was designed to provide capacity for 500 employees.** Process wastewater is no longer applied to that area and domestic wastewater is not commingled with process wastewater.

SITE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

38. The site is located on the eastern slope of the Diablo Range. The City of Tracy is approximately five miles northeast of the site. The facility is sited on an alluvial fan that generally slopes to the northeast, and surface elevations at the site range from 540 feet above mean sea level (MSL) to 240 feet MSL. Slopes range from approximately 20 percent in the southern part of the site to nearly flat in the northern portions of the site.
 39. The average annual precipitation in the area is 9.90 inches and the 100-year total annual precipitation is 21.32 inches. The reference evapotranspiration rate (ET_0) in the area is approximately 53 inches per year.
 40. Local land use is primarily open space, with some neighboring industrial, **low-density** residential, and agricultural operations. The facility and LAAs are outside the 100-year flood zone.
 41. Site soils are predominantly mapped as Calla-Carbona complex and Carbona clay loam by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). Carbona complex and Cogna fine sandy loam are also found. Calla-Carbona complex is comprised of 45 percent Calla clay loam and 40 percent Carbona clay loam. The Calla soil is described as very deep and well drained on strongly sloping to moderately steep terrain. The Carbona clay loam is described as very deep, well-drained soils on gently to moderately sloping terrain. Carbona complex soils are described as moderately steep and steep soils that are comprised of 45 percent Carbona clay loam and 40 percent Carbona clay loam containing a sandstone substratum at approximately 57 inches. Both of these soils are deep and well drained. Cogna fine sandy loam is described as very deep, well drained, nearly level soil on alluvial fans.
 42. The Discharger has been monitoring concentrations of waste constituents in shallow LAA soils annually since 2002. -A total of 18 on-site sampling locations (sampling locations 1 through 10 and 12 through 19) and five background sampling locations (sampling locations A, B, C, 11, and 20) have been monitored at depth intervals ranging from the upper six inches of soil to a one-foot interval five to six feet below the ground surface (bgs). These locations are shown on Attachment D, which is attached hereto and made part of this Order by reference.
- As noted above, soil sampling locations A, B, C, 11, and 20 are located outside of the LAAs and are considered background soil sampling locations. The following table summarizes general soil characteristics and historical electrical conductivity monitoring data for the background locations.

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Sampling Location by NRCS Map	NRCS Characterization	Mean of Background Soil Electrical Conductivity Results (umhos/cm) by Sampling Interval (inches bgs)			
	Slope (%)	Salinity (umhos/cm)	0 to 6 inches	27 to 39 inches	60 to 72 inches
Unit					
123 - Carbona Clay Loam					
A ¹	10	<1,000 to 2,000	9,200 ⁴	2,800	5,200
B ¹	10	2,000	3,000	1,800	1,900
11 ²	7		4,500	5,600	4,200
114 - Calla Carbona Complex					
C ¹	10	<700 to 1,000	1,400	1,100	1,300
20 ³	7		700	1,900	2,000

¹ Based on three annual samples (2006 through 2008).

² Based on seven annual samples (2002 through 2008).

³ Based on five annual samples (2004 through 2008).

⁴ Mean result is skewed upward significantly by a single high value in September 2006.

The background soil EC results to date vary significantly with location, depth, and time. The spatial and temporal variations in background soil EC are not readily explained by climate, topography, or soil type because all of the background locations experience the same weather, are on moderate slopes of 7 to 10 percent; are outside of natural drainage channels; and the soils are reportedly all predominantly clay. Therefore, it may not be practical to establish a site-specific value for background soil EC.

43. Electrical conductivity is a good indicator of the impact of the discharge on LAA soils because the predominant waste constituents of concern are salinity constituents. The following table provides ranges of soil EC results to date for the 18 soil sampling locations that are within the LAAs (by depth interval).

Sampling Location by NRCS Map Unit	Range of LAA Soil Electrical Conductivity Results (umhos/cm) by Sampling Interval (inches bgs)		
	0 to 6 inches	27 to 39 inches	60 to 72 inches
Unit			
123 – Carbona Clay Loam			
10	4,100 to 26,100	2,200 to 24,900	1,500 to 5,400
14	16,000 to 37,700	3,300 to 8,400	1,600 to 4,000
17	12,700 to 32,100	3,600 to 7,500	1,900 to 8,500

Sampling Location by NRCS Map Unit	Range of LAA Soil Electrical Conductivity Results (umhos/cm) by Sampling Interval (inches bgs)		
	0 to 6 inches	27 to 39 inches	60 to 72 inches
114 – Calla Carbona Complex			
1	7,900 to 43,400	1,900 to 6,500	1,500 to 3,400
3	4,100 to 63,400	2,500 to 7,600	1,800 to 17,300
4	4,400 to 38,100	1,900 to 4,000	1,200 to 4,400
5	3,000 to 40,200	1,900 to 9,600	1,600 to 7,000
6	1,300 to 38,100	3,800 to 6,500	2,100 to 7,500
7	4,600 to 106,000	2,500 to 16,300	1,600 to 6,300
8	8,900 to 69,800	2,700 to 11,400	1,500 to 7,700
9	2,400 to 22,300	1,600 to 10,500	2,100 to 4,200
12	2,200 to 35,400	2,100 to 6,200	1,900 to 12,500
13	8,500 to 18,200	2,100 to 3,600	2,000 to 3,500
15	5,300 to 26,700	2,900 to 23,300	2,100 to 3,000
16	3,100 to 8,500	1,700 to 6,300	1,700 to 2,900
18	5,500 to 46,000	1,900 to 5,900	1,800 to 5,100
19	3,400 to 8,300	2,300 to 6,800	2,800 to 10,700
126 – Carbona Complex			
2	5,800 to 56,700	2,000 to -6,300	1,700 to 4,200

As shown by the tabulated data, the soil EC results for the LAA samples are also highly variable. Although some temporal trends seem to be present at some of the LAA sampling locations, the data do not conclusively show site-wide increases over time for any of the depth intervals monitored. However, there are significant data gaps in the depth intervals sampled. Specifically, with the exception of one monitoring event in 2007, there are no data for the interval from 7 to 26 inches bgs or from 40 to 60 inches. Additionally, the RWD did not correlate the soil monitoring data with LAA-specific information such as slope, soil type, use history, and historical salinity loadings. Such correlations may help to explain the variability within the data set. However, many natural soils have considerable salinity variability over short distances even when no wastes have been applied to the soils.

44. Based on the spatial and temporal variability of the background soil monitoring data, it may not be possible to use the LAA soil monitoring data to make conclusions about salinity accumulation at each discrete sampling location. However, it may be possible to assess temporal trends by comparing the aggregate LAA data to the aggregate

background data for each sampling interval. The following table provides some EC statistics for the each monitored soil interval based on the aggregated values for the background sampling locations and sampling locations within the LAAs.

Statistic	Soil Electrical Conductivity Statistic Value by Sampling Interval (inches bgs)					
	0 to 6 inches		27 to 39 inches		60 to 72 inches	
Background	LAAs	Background	LAAs	Background	LAAs	Background
Minimum	600	1,300	600	1,600	550	1,200
Maximum	25,400	106,000	11,900	24,900	8,500	17,300
Mean	3,600	18,600	3,100	4,500	3,100	3,500
90 th Percentile	7,600	39,000	8,200	7,900	6,200	6,500

Based on these statistics:

- The background EC is similar within each of the three depth intervals. This may indicate that the soil salinity does not naturally vary significantly with depth within the upper six feet of soil.
 - The upper six inches of LAA soil shows significantly higher EC than the background soil on a site-wide basis; and
 - The 27- to 39-inch and 60- to 72-inch intervals **may** show some signs of salinity impacts compared to background. These impacts, if any, may be localized; **but, as previously noted, individual comparisons of background soil EC to LAA soil EC cannot be performed because the sampling locations are not paired. When the overall control and LAA soil sample datasets are compared, no statistical differences from background can be demonstrated.**
 - For the 60- to 72-inch interval, the background EC and LAA soil EC data sets are similar with the exception of one outlier LAA EC measurement of 17,300 umhos/cm. A nonparametric statistical test of the differences in data sets (Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney test using a 95% confidence coefficient) indicated that background EC and LAA soil EC data sets are not significantly different.**
- As noted above, electrical conductivity is a good indicator of the impact of the discharge on LAA soils because the predominant inorganic waste constituents are sodium and chloride. However, chloride is conservative (i.e., it does not degrade or readily react with soil minerals) and sodium is not. Therefore, other important salinity indicators for this site are cation exchange capacity (CEC), sodium absorption ratio (SAR), and exchangeable

sodium percentage (ESP). CEC is a measure of a soil's ability to bind and exchange positively charged ions in soil pore water, many of which are plant nutrients. Soils rich in organic matter and clay typically have a high CEC, whereas sands and gravels typically have very low CEC and do not sustain plant life well. SAR can be used to assess the adverse effects of sodium on a particular soil. It is calculated from concentrations of soil sodium, magnesium and calcium. When the SAR exceeds 12 to 15, soil tilth and permeability are reduced, and plants are less able to absorb soil moisture. Sodic soils are those that have a high ESP, which is a measure of the portion of the cation exchange capacity that is occupied by sodium. Sodic soils are poorly drained and may impact plant growth by sodium toxicity, nutrient deficiencies, and/or high pH. If the ESP is greater than 15%, the soil is considered sodic. Sodicity can be reduced by adding calcium carbonate (lime) or calcium sulfate (gypsum) to the soil. However, this practice requires the addition of water to leach the displaced sodium below the crop root zone, which could result in groundwater degradation unless deep percolation is prevented through controlled operations.

Mean of Soil Analytical Results for Other Salinity Indicators by Sampling Interval (inches bgs)					
Parameter	0 to 6 inches		27 to 39 inches		60 to 72 inches
	Background	LAA	Background	LAA	Background
CEC (meq/ 100g)	34	31	29	30	26
SAR	15	87	12	17	15
ESP (%)	11	47	13	20	16
Sodium (meq/L)	28	175	22	36	24
Chloride (meq/L)	15	91	9	28	13
Bicarbonate (meq/L)	7	140	5	7	5
Sulfate (meq/L)	1	19	9	8	4

These statistics indicate that background soils have a high CEC and marginal SAR and ESP. The upper six inches of LAA soils are sodic, and soils in the 27- to 39-inch depth interval are also sodic though to a lesser extent than the upper six inches. At the 60- to 72-inch depth interval, the background soils and LAA soils have similar ESP and SAR. These data are consistent with the conclusions derived from the EC statistics.

These statistics also indicate that for all of the three depth intervals, the CEC for background soils and LAA soils are similar. A nonparametric statistical test of the differences in data sets (Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney test using a 95% confidence

coefficient) also indicated that the CEC data sets are similar. Given that CEC does not vary relative to sodium levels and that ESP measures the CEC that is occupied by sodium, it follows that CEC is not an indicator of salinity impacts. As noted previously, SAR and ESP are indicators of the temporal and spatial variability in salinity impacts. These statistics indicate that background soils have a relatively high CEC and marginal SAR and ESP. The upper six inches of LAA soils have become very saline and soils in the 27- to 39-inch depth interval are also showing signs of increased salinity. These data are consistent with the conclusions derived from the EC statistics.

GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS

46. The site lies in the eastern foothills of the Coast Range Mountains at the western edge of the alluvial deposits of the San Joaquin Valley. Deposits exposed in the area of the site include the Miocene to Pliocene Neroly Formation, the Pliocene to early Pleistocene Tertiary Plioene sediments (Tps), and older and younger Quaternary alluvium. The Neroly Formation is a marine to non-marine blue to gray sandstone that is locally pebbly. The Neroly underlies the site with only minor exposures on the south side of the site. The top of the Neroly Formation is a blue clay, which is used as a marker bed for the transition from the Tps to the Neroly Formation, and the Tps conformably overlies the Neroly. The Tps is exposed across most of the site and consists of fine-grained sands and clayey silts that alternate with greenish gray clays and minor pebble conglomerates, marl, and sand of non-marine origin. Overlying the Tertiary sediments is older and younger Quaternary alluvium consisting of unconsolidated gravels, sands, silts, and clays. Older alluvium is superficially exposed in minor amounts in the northern portion of the site as terrace deposits. The younger alluvium occurs as thin surficial deposits in the central drainage swale that bisects the site, with lesser amounts in tributary drainages. Sediments at the site are derived primarily from marine deposits of the Coast Ranges.
47. The Tertiary sediments are complexly folded and regionally dip 25 to 30 degrees to the northeast. Based on the blue clay at the top of the Neroly Formation, dips on the site appear to be approximately 20 degrees to the northeast on the south side of the central drainage swale and approximately 10 degrees to the northeast on the north side of the central drainage swale.
48. The Midway fault is located approximately 500 feet southwest of the southwestern corner of the property, and trends northwest/southeast. A lineament parallel to the Midway fault is mapped bisecting the site and a series of parallel faults are found further to the southwest. Structure southwest of the site is fault-blocked anticlines and synclines. The Midway fault is a normal fault that strikes to the northwest with the down-dropped block on the southwest side of the fault. The significance of the fault is that it may provide a conduit for the vertical migration of fluids.

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49. Fractures are present in outcrop of the Tps and Neroly at the site. These fractures are steeply dipping and occasionally filled with permeable clastic material. The permeable material may provide a conduit for the vertical migration of fluids.

50. There is one onsite supply well that is used for the facility's domestic water supply. The well, Musco-1, is screened from 207 to 607 feet below ground surface with a 50-foot sanitary seal. Groundwater analytical data for five samples collected between 1982 and 1999 from this well are summarized below.

Constituent	Units	Range	Mean
TDS	mg/L	1,280 - 1,971	1,513
Sodium	mg/L	228 - 477	372
Chloride	mg/L	187 - 514	334
Nitrate nitrogen	mg/L	3.7 - 5.5	4.4

51. There is one offsite domestic supply well located approximately 200 feet east of the site. This well is screened from 235 to 335 feet below ground surface with a 50-foot sanitary seal. This well appears to be cross-gradient from the site. Groundwater analytical data for this well are summarized below based on quarterly monitoring from 2006 to 2009.

Constituent	Units	Range	Mean
TDS	mg/L	1,200 - 1,300	1,275
Sodium	mg/L	290 - 353	330
Chloride	mg/L	220 - 260	234
Nitrate nitrogen	mg/L	< 0.4 - < 0.1	--

52. There is an artesian well in the drainage northwest of and adjacent to the site. This well is of unknown construction, but reported to have been an exploratory petroleum well drilled in the early 1900s to a depth of 1,700 feet. The fact that this well is artesian (water level is above the ground surface) and ~~is~~ the location is 30 to 40 feet in elevation above the drainage (according to the topographic map for the area) indicates there are upward vertical gradients in the area. Water from the well is reportedly used for stock watering. Analytical data for a groundwater sample collected from this well in December of 2009 are summarized below.

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Constituent	Units	Concentration
TDS	mg/L	2,490
Sodium	mg/L	693
Chloride	mg/L	485
Sulfate	mg/L	960
Nitrate nitrogen	mg/L	0.1

53. Known groundwater uses within one mile of the facility include stock watering and small domestic supply wells.
54. There are a total of 37 onsite groundwater monitoring wells, five offsite groundwater monitoring wells, and one offsite domestic supply well that are monitored quarterly. Eleven of the onsite monitoring wells are currently dry and are monitored for the presence of water.
55. Site investigations have identified three water-bearing zones on the site that are referred to as shallow, intermediate, and deep. These zones are discerned by differences in their water chemistry signatures (i.e., Stiff diagrams) and the static groundwater elevations.
56. The table below identifies the monitoring wells on site that monitor the shallow, intermediate, and deep groundwater zones. The table also provides well locations and whether each well is upgradient, cross-gradient, mid-gradient, or downgradient of the waste disposal areas (i.e., the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and the LAs). These wells are depicted on Attachment E, which is attached hereto and made part of this Order by reference.

Well Designation	Shallow zone	"Intermediate" zone	Deep zone
Upgradient	MW-1; MW-14↓; MW-2C; MW-27	MW-23; MW-29 (2 nd encountered groundwater)	MW-2; MW-25
Cross-gradient	MW-24↓; MW-28;		
Mid-Gradient	MW-3↓; MW-5↓; MW-6; MW-13R↓; MW-15↓; MW-16; MW-9 (dry); MW-11 (dry); MW-19 (dry)	MW-6R	MW-3C; MW-4↓; MW-8↓; MW-9R; MW-13C;
Downgradient	MW-17↑; MW-10 (dry); SF-1; SF-3; MW-20 (dry); MW-21 (dry); W-2 (dry)	MW-10R↑; MW-18↑; MW-12↓; MW-22	MW-7; MW-26; SF-2

Notes: ↑ designates transition zone (shallow to deep) wells.

↓ denotes persistent decline in water levels.

In general, the shallow groundwater zone (less than 60 feet bgs) is present in the southern portion of the Site, the intermediate zone (between 60 and 120 feet bgs) is present in the mid to northern portion of the Site, and the deep groundwater zone (greater than 120 feet bgs) is present in the northern portion of the Site.

- 57. Groundwater elevation data collected from monitoring wells completed at different depths and close to each other indicate downward to neutral vertical gradients at the depths and locations of those wells.
- 58. Groundwater flow in the deep zone is to the northwest with an approximate gradient of 0.038 feet/foot, groundwater flow in the intermediate zone is to the northeast with an approximate gradient of 0.038, and groundwater flow in the shallow zone is to the northeast with an approximate gradient of 0.036.
- 59. The Discharger has identified several different types of groundwater beneath the site that range in quality from connate to meteoric. Connate water is water that is trapped within the interstices of a rock at the time of deposition and typically has a high TDS concentration, particularly for sedimentary rocks of marine origin. Meteoric water is water that has fallen as precipitation and recently infiltrated into the rock and typically has a low TDS concentration. Data collected by the Discharger indicate that water within the Neroly

Formation (i.e., below the blue clay marker bed) is connate with a TDS range from 7,000 to 12,000 mg/L. Meteoric water is encountered in shallow wells along the central swale upstream of the 84 MG Reservoir and has a TDS range from 670 to 1,800 mg/L. Other types of water encountered at the facility have a quality between that of the connate and meteoric waters.

60. Groundwater at the site may be a mixture of connate and meteoric water. This is supported by monitoring wells MW-2C and MW-14. Well MW-2C is installed in the Tps, directly above the blue clay marker bed, and has the chemical signature of connate groundwater encountered below the blue clay. Well MW-14 is installed near well MW-2C and the central swale where meteoric groundwater occurs. Groundwater from well MW-14 has a geochemical signature that appears to be a mixture of connate and meteoric groundwaters. Connate waters may be the source of sulfate found in some onsite groundwater monitoring wells.
61. Groundwater encountered in monitoring wells MW-15, MW-16, MW-3, and MW-5 has been impacted by wastewater from the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. This has been identified by an increase in bicarbonate concentrations that caused a change in Stiff diagram shapes after operation of the reservoir began in December 2002. The increase in bicarbonate was accompanied by a decrease in chloride resulting in an increase in TDS concentrations except for MW-3 where TDS concentrations did not increase above the pre-reservoir concentrations. **The increase in water levels in these wells can be correlated with filling of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir.** One explanation is that seepage occurred from the reservoir. Another explanation for the observed increase in water levels of the surrounding monitoring wells is the increase in downward pressure on the formation as the reservoir filled. An increase in water levels in these wells can be correlated with filling of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir, providing physical evidence of leakage.
62. **Shortly after the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir was first used, water began to seep through the toe drain of the dam and down the central drainage swale. Seepage rates were measured at 1 to 2.5 gallons per minute.** Shortly after the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir was first used, water began to leak through the toe drain of the dam and down the central drainage swale. Leakage rates were measured at 1 to 2.5 gallons per minute. In June of 2005, the Discharger began capturing the toe drain **seepage leakage** and returning it to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. Since 2008, bicarbonate and TDS concentrations have been decreasing. As of October 2009, TDS concentrations in wells MW-15 and **MW-16** have recovered to concentrations present before filling of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. The TDS concentration detected in the groundwater sample collected during October 2009 from MW-5 (2,360 mg/L) is only slightly above pre-reservoir concentrations (2,200 mg/L) detected in April and June of 2002 and appears to be on a downward trend. Stiff diagram shapes are also changing, indicating reduced influence by wastewater. The increase in TDS downgradient of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir appears to

be a relic of previous operations of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and not reflective of current operations. Groundwater elevations in MW-3, MW-5, and MW-16 have been decreasing since 2007.

63. Geochemical analysis of groundwater collected from monitoring wells at the downgradient edge of the facility indicates that groundwater at the downgradient edge of the facility does not appear to have been significantly impacted by site activities.
64. The RWD presented four methods to estimate a range of ambient groundwater TDS concentrations considered representative of ambient water quality upgradient of the site. Four methods are presented as opposed to the single estimation approach because of the complexity of the groundwater flow regime beneath the site, and the inherent uncertainty provided by any single estimation method. The results presented in the RWD indicate the ambient TDS concentration is between 1,456 mg/l and 2,378 mg/l. The regional groundwater TDS concentration of 2,111 mg/l, based on data collected by the Department of Water Resources prior to operations at the site, falls within this range.
65. Because of the hydrogeologic complexity of the site and the natural lateral and vertical variability of groundwater quality, evaluation of site impacts should be based on trend analysis of data collected from each well (i.e., introwell analysis) instead of upgradient versus downgradient water quality.

66. Based upon the available water quality data and several different methods of estimating ambient conditions upgradient of the site, the Discharger ~~believes~~-demonstrated that an ambient background concentration for TDS of 2,000 mg/L best represents the complex hydrogeology and groundwater quality of the ~~s~~ite.

FACILITY CLOSURE PLAN

67. As noted in Finding No. 11, a Site Closure and Maintenance Report was required pursuant to ACL and Penalty Order No. R5-2007-0138 by 31 December 2007, which the Discharger timely submitted. Stipulated Order No. R5-2007-0138 states, in part:

"Musco Family Olive Company and the Studley Company shall develop and maintain financial assurances according to the following schedule:

 - a. *By 31 December 2007, the Discharger shall submit a Site Closure and Maintenance Report to the Executive Officer for approval that contains:*
 - i. *A detailed plan for the short-term maintenance of the site, including a[n] ... annual cost estimate...*
 - ii. *A detailed plan for the complete closure of the site, including a[n]...estimate of the cost... [and] at least two alternatives... [one to be selected] by the Executive Officer.*

- iii. A detailed plan for post-closure maintenance and monitoring of the site, including a[n] estimate of the cost of maintaining the 84 million gallon reservoir to collect the site run-off for the design seasonal precipitation... ...and the cost of necessary monitoring.*
- iv. A[n] estimate of the cost of initiating and completing corrective action for all known or reasonably foreseeable releases from the site that pose a threat to water quality.”*

The report included a brief feasibility study of LAA closure alternatives and identified two proposed closure objectives. The first objective is to effectively address accumulated salt loads within the upper 6 to 18 inches of LAA soil, and the second is to prevent the post-closure release of residual elevated salt concentrations to surface water drainages.

Nine conceptual alternatives were screened, and two were retained for detailed analysis. The first is the “Root Zone Salt Displacement Alternative”, which is the Discharger’s preferred alternative. This alternative would utilize infiltration galleries and low salinity water from the local irrigation district to move accumulated salt below the root zone. The wastewater treatment/storage reservoir would be drained and the effluent would be applied to the LAAs during the first year of the 3-year final closure project. No other closure activities for the reservoir were envisioned. The infiltration galleries would be designed and operated to displace residual salt to a target depth of 18 inches bgs using approximately 4 inches of water during each of three leaching events. Following these efforts, no further operation, maintenance and monitoring (OM&M) was envisioned, and the study assumed that no runoff controls would be required. Capital costs for the Root Zone Salt Displacement Alternative were estimated to be \$500,000 each year for three years. There would be no OM&M cost, therefore the total cost would be approximately \$1.5 million.

The second site closure alternative, which was selected for detailed analysis by the Executive Officer, would consist of excavation and offsite disposal of the upper six inches of LAA soil (approximately 130,000 cubic yards). Conceptually, the soil would be used as alternative daily cover at a Class II landfill. This alternative included runoff control and erosion control at the regraded LAAs. -The wastewater treatment/storage reservoir would be drained and the effluent would be applied to the LAAs before the surface soil is removed. This alternative included three years of post-closure operation, maintenance, and monitoring, including storm water and groundwater monitoring; runoff controls; and regular inspection/repair. Capital costs for the Excavation and Offsite Disposal Alternative were estimated to be \$6.8 million. The OM&M cost was estimated at \$240,000 each year for three years. Therefore, the total cost would be approximately \$7.5 million.

Although the Site Closure and Maintenance Report contains the required information, it did not adequately address site conditions. This is due in part to the fact that additional

soil and groundwater data have been obtained since its submittal. The following concerns must be addressed before the Executive Officer approves the closure plan:

1. Sludge and salt left in the reservoir ~~could~~ pose an ongoing but unspecified threat to groundwater and surface water quality.
2. Accumulated sludge would be left in the reservoir. It would tend to dry out and ~~be~~ rewetted by rain each subsequent year indefinitely, posing a ~~significant potential~~ threat of nuisance conditions.
3. **The runoff diversion ditches around the reservoir and the reservoir itself could fail if not properly maintained. Either of these potential scenarios could result in a release to onsite drainages, but the closure plan did not address this issue in sufficient detail. The runoff diversion ditches around the reservoir, if not maintained, could fail. This could cause the dam to be overtopped, releasing sediment, sludge, and saline water to surface waters (possibly with accompanying flood damage). If the Division of Safety of Dams requires that the reservoir dam must be notched or removed upon decommissioning, any impounded residuals could be washed downstream during rainfall.**
4. With regard to Root Zone Salt Displacement Alternative:
 - a. The report did not include a conceptual design for the infiltration galleries. The capital cost estimate appears to be low given variable site conditions such as soil porosity and slope.
 - b. This alternative is not proven, ~~possibly cannot be proven~~, and may not be technically feasible (especially without long-term monitoring, which is not proposed). An unstated assumption is that it will be possible to reliably move the salt to 18 inches below ground surface and keep it there indefinitely even with wetter than normal years that are part of the natural climate pattern.
5. With regard to the Excavation and Offsite Disposal Alternative:
 - a. The assumption that only six inches of soil would need to be removed does not fit well with the soil monitoring data, which show that some areas (not well-defined) exhibit salt impacts at depths of 12 to 26 inches. Closure may not require removal of all soils that have increased salinities from waste disposal, but the level of salts that can be left on site without and adverse impact on surface or groundwater quality has not been determined. Therefore the depth of soil that would need to be removed during site closure is unclear.
 - b. An unstated assumption is that the existing soil salinity impacts will not move deeper during subsequent years of operation as more salt continues to be added.

There is not sufficient information at this time to select the final closure alternative, and a more detailed conceptual design is needed to refine the scope of work and closure cost estimates before the amount of required financial assurance can be determined.

However, it is essential that the Discharger establish and begin contributing to a financial assurance account so that the Central Valley Water Board can be assured that adequate closure funds will be in place within ten years of the date of this Order. Therefore, this Order requires that the Discharger establish a financial assurance mechanism and begin making contributions beginning in 2010. This Order also requires that the Discharger address the concerns noted above, and provide a conceptual closure plan with a detailed cost estimate, and provide financial assurance for the closure option based on the detailed cost estimate contained in the approved conceptual closure plan.

Comment [MB1]: Modify per resolution of closure and financial assurance

BASIN PLAN, BENEFICIAL USES, AND REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

68. The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins, Fourth Edition* (hereafter Basin Plan) designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, contains implementation plans and policies for protecting waters of the basin, and incorporates by reference plans and policies adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board. Pursuant to Section 13263(a) of the California Water Code, waste discharge requirements must implement the Basin Plan.
69. Local surface water drainage is to the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta. The beneficial uses of the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta are municipal and domestic supply, irrigation, stock watering, industrial process and service supply, contact recreation, other non-contact recreation, warm and cold freshwater habitat, warm and cold migration, warm water spawning, and navigation. Surface water drainage from the site flows via an unnamed intermittent stream which typically terminates by infiltration within a low-lying area between the California Aqueduct and the recently developed Safeway distribution facility (see Attachment E). ~~Surface water flow to the San Joaquin River would occur only during major flood events in the drainage area upstream of Musco, if at all.~~
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the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wrote to the Discharger that "based on the information you have provided, we have determined that the unnamed drainage is isolated with no apparent interstate commerce connection. This drainage is not currently regulated by the Corps under the Clean Water Act." Surface water flow to the San Joaquin River would occur only during major flood events in the drainage area upstream of Musco, if at all.
70. ~~The beneficial uses of underlying groundwater are domestic supply, agricultural supply, industrial service supply, and industrial process supply. Background groundwater quality in the local area may already limit these uses.~~
on March 13, 2002
the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wrote to the Discharger that "based on the information you have provided, we have determined that the unnamed drainage is isolated with no apparent interstate commerce connection. This drainage is not currently regulated by the Corps under the Clean Water Act." Surface water flow to the San Joaquin River would occur only during major flood events in the drainage area upstream of Musco, if at all.
71. The Basin Plan establishes narrative water quality objectives for chemical constituents, tastes and odors, and toxicity in groundwater. It also sets forth numeric objectives for pH and total coliform organisms

72. The Basin Plan's narrative water quality objective for chemical constituents, at a minimum, requires waters designated as domestic or municipal supply to meet the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) specified in Title 22. The Basin Plan recognizes that the Central Valley Water Board may apply limits more stringent than MCLs to ensure that waters do not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.

73. The narrative toxicity objective requires that groundwater be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life associated with designated beneficial uses. Quantifying a narrative water quality objective requires a site-specific evaluation of those constituents that have the potential to impact water quality and beneficial uses.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR FOOD PROCESSING WASTE

74. Excessive application of food processing wastewater to land application areas can create objectionable odors, soil conditions that are harmful to crops, and degradation of underlying groundwater by overloading the shallow soil profile and causing waste constituents (organic carbon, nitrate, other salts, and metals) to percolate below the root zone. Ordinarily, it is reasonable to expect some attenuation of various waste constituents that percolate below the root zone within the vadose (unsaturated) zone. Specifically, excess nitrogen can be mineralized and denitrified by soil microorganisms, organic constituents (measured as both BOD and volatile dissolved solids) can be oxidized, and some salinity species will undergo cation exchange with clay minerals, effectively immobilizing them.
75. Loading of BOD should be limited to prevent nuisance conditions. The maximum BOD loading rate that can be applied to land without creating nuisance conditions can vary significantly depending on the operation of the land application system. *Pollution Abatement in the Fruit and Vegetable Industry*, published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA Publication No. 625/3-77-0007) (hereafter *Pollution Abatement*), cites BOD loading rates in the range of 36 lbs/acre-day to 600 lbs/acre-day but indicates the loading rates can be even higher under certain seasonal and soil/crop conditions.
76. Acidic soil conditions can be detrimental to land treatment system function, and may also cause groundwater degradation. If the buffering capacity of the soil is exceeded and soil pH decreases below 5, naturally occurring metals (including iron and manganese) may dissolve and degrade underlying groundwater. *Pollution Abatement* recommends that water applied to crops have a pH within 6.4 to 8.4 to protect crops from damage by food processing wastewater. Near neutral pH may also be required to maintain adequate active microbial populations in the soil. The pH of wastewater discharged to the LAs

has occasionally been outside the recommended range. However, there have been no apparent effects on the NyPa crop or groundwater quality.

ANTI-DEGRADATION ANALYSIS

77. State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16 ("Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters of the State") (hereafter Resolution 68-16) prohibits degradation of high quality groundwater unless it has been shown that:
 - a. The degradation is consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the State;
 - b. The degradation will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated future beneficial uses;
 - c. The degradation does not result in water quality less than that prescribed in state and regional policies, including violation of one or more water quality objectives; and
 - d. The discharger employs best practicable treatment and control (BPTC) to minimize degradation.
78. The olive processing facility has discharged wastewater at the site since 1983, when the first WDRs were issued. There are no site-specific data with which to evaluate shallow groundwater quality at the site prior to that date. Although the site is hydrogeologically complex, evaluation of local and areal groundwater conditions determined that the background groundwater TDS concentration is 2000 mg/L, as discussed in Finding No. 66.
79. Since adoption of the previous WDRs, the Discharger has implemented the following treatment and control measures to control or prevent water quality degradation:
 - a. The Discharger has undertaken a long-term water conservation program. For the three-year period ending in August 2002 the average water use was 5,062 gallons per ton of olives processed. For the three-year period ending in August 2009 the average water use was less than 4,000 gallons per ton of olives processed. The Discharger states that 4,000 gallons per ton is a sustainable water usage rate for the facility.
 - b. The Discharger has also undertaken a long-term chemical source reduction/control program. From 2004 through 2007, the yearly average FDS concentration of wastewater discharged from the processing plant ranged from 1,900 to 2,100 mg/L. In 2008 and 2009, the yearly average FDS concentration was 1,450 mg/L. During the same period, the annual salt mass discharged to the reservoir (measured as FDS)

declined from over 1,300 tons per year to 880 tons in 2008⁴, which is approximately a 32% reduction.

- c. The Discharger has planted a salt-loving perennial crop at the LAAs and has made efforts to increase the crop coverage to the maximum sustainable coverage considering the soil and water needs of the crop as well as the need to minimize leaching. The crop is periodically harvested for use as fodder, thereby removing some salt from the site.

- d. Between 2003 and 2005, the Discharger retained an equipment vendor to conduct a pilot study to evaluate the feasibility of using a two-stage reverse osmosis (RO) system to remove dissolved solids from the process wastewater. An immersed membrane bioreactor (MBR) upstream of the RO unit was necessary to minimize fouling of the RO membranes. The pilot study indicated that, based upon residuals management requirements, including the additional high-salinity RO reject water and the biological sludge, and the membrane cleaning requirements, dissolved solids removal using membrane systems is cost prohibitive for the facility. The Discharger has proposed an alternate technology (RENEWS) for removal of dissolved solids from a portion of its process wastewater.

- e. The Discharger has undertaken a pilot study to evaluate the potential for using heat energy from olive pits and the harvested crop to evaporate wastewater and generate electricity. The Discharger constructed a demonstration-scale plant (called the "Renewable Energy/Wastewater System" or RENEWS), which is capable of treating up to 6,000 gallons of waste water per day. The demonstration-scale RENEWS unit successfully reduced the FDS of one of the Discharger's waste streams to below 100 mg/L. In December 2009 the Discharger contracted with a vendor to build a RENEWS unit capable of treating 60,000 gallons per day. The unit is expected to be operational in July 2010. Based on the pilot study and demonstration-scale unit, the Discharger states that RENEWS could further reduce the salinity mass loading to the LAAs by up to 250 tons per year.

However, the Discharger has not committed to a time schedule for completion of the 60,000-gpd RENEWS system. This Order requires the Discharger to begin full scale operation of the 60,000 gpd RENEWS system or demonstrate that the full scale system is infeasible within two years of adoption of this Order.

⁴ The total FDS mass discharged to the LAAs in 2007 and 2009 was substantially lower than 2008, but the processing plant was closed for extended periods during both of those years. Therefore, the annual FDS mass loading rate for those two years is not considered to be sustainable without impacting production unless additional treatment or source control is implemented.

The unlined wastewater treatment/storage reservoir does not incorporate any specific measures to reduce the potential for groundwater degradation. However, based on the finding that the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir has not caused unreasonable groundwater degradation or exceedance of a water quality objective (Finding Nos. 61 through 64), additional measures such as pond lining are not required at this time. However, this Order requires that the Discharger continue groundwater monitoring and re-evaluate groundwater quality annually. The groundwater limitations of this Order do not allow statistically significant increases in concentrations of waste constituents in groundwater. If groundwater monitoring data show that the discharge has violated the groundwater limitations of this Order, this Order may be reopened to add additional requirements that address the violations.

80. Constituents of concern that have the potential to degrade groundwater include salts (primarily FDS, sodium, and chloride) and nitrogen, as discussed below:

a. The discharge to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir has degraded groundwater quality and the discharge to the LAAs has the potential to degrade groundwater quality. This Order imposes concentration- and mass-based effluent salinity limits that do not allow a significant increase over the recently achieved sustainable levels cited above and will prevent degradation that exceeds water quality objectives. The Current WDRs and CDO regulate salinity primarily in terms of TDS. However, as noted in Finding No. 23, FDS is a better salinity indicator for this facility. The following table summarizes past and proposed salinity limits in terms of FDS. The comparison is based on a facility-specific TDS:FDS ratio of 1.92, which was provided in the RWD and FDS:sodium and FDS:chloride ratios calculated from the 2008 effluent monitoring data presented in Finding No. 24.

Regulatory Measure	Limit -Type	Effluent Concentrations Limit			
		TDS (mg/L)	Sodium (mg/L)	Chloride (mg/L)	FDS (mg/L)
1997 WDRs (Order No. 97-037)	Annual Average Maximum	None	None	None	1,264 ^{1,2}
WDRs Order No. R5-2002-0148	Maximum	2,047 ²	597 ²	601 ²	1,068 ^{2,3} 094^{2,3}
CDO Order No. R5-2007-0139	Monthly Average	3,200 ²	700 ²	No change	2,200 ²
This Order	Monthly Average	3,800 ³ 740³²	707 ⁴ 609³	307-332⁵⁴	2,000 ²

1 The limits in the 1997 WDRs are expressed as dissolved inorganic solids (DIS), which is equivalent to FDS.

2 **Effluent limit in current or past Order (WDRs or CDO).**

32 Estimated equivalent concentration based on TDS:FDS ratio of **4.921.87**.

43 Estimated equivalent concentration based on FDS:sodium ratio of **2.833.28**.

54 Estimated equivalent concentration based on FDS:chloride ratio of **6.526.02**.

The FDS limits of this Order are more stringent than those imposed by the CDO and should result in a significant decrease in the chloride concentration of the waste discharged to the LAs. This Order does not impose separate effluent limits for sodium and chloride because FDS measures the overall salinity and the concentration of individual salinity constituents is expected to be relatively constant. However, based on the estimated equivalent sodium concentration, the FDS of this Order limits might allow a slight increase in the sodium concentration over that allowed by the CDO. The Discharger will be able to immediately comply with the FDS limits without further treatment or source control. As noted in Finding No. 79.d above, this Order does not allow statistically significant increases in concentrations of waste constituents in groundwater.

b. For nitrogen, the potential for unreasonable degradation depends not only on the quality of the treated effluent, but the ability of the vadose zone below the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and LAs to provide an environment conducive to nitrification and denitrification to convert the effluent nitrogen to nitrate and the nitrate to nitrogen gas before it reaches the water table. Groundwater monitoring data indicate that the discharge has not caused significant degradation due to nitrate. The NyPa grass grown at the LAs should remove most of the nitrogen in the applied wastewater if the Discharger continues the current level of wastewater treatment and maintains adequate crop coverage. Given the soil type and depth to groundwater at the LAs, subsequent denitrification in the vadose zone is expected to prevent unreasonable groundwater degradation at the LAs. This Order requires that the Discharger continue to treat the wastewater and maintain adequate crop cover at the LAs.

81. This Order does not allow any increase in the volume of waste or the mass of waste constituents discharged.

82. The previous WDRs allowed an increase in the discharge to 800,000 gpd as a monthly average flow conditioned on:

- a. Measurement of tailwater returned to the ~~treatment/storage reservoir~~;
- b. Measurement of storm runoff water returned to ~~treatment/storage reservoir~~; and

- c. Cessation of discharge into any reservoir or pond that has less than two feet of freeboard.

This Order imposes lower effluent flow limits based on the hydraulic capacity of the existing system, with which the Discharger can comply.

- 83. This Order is consistent with the Basin Plan and Resolution No. 68-16, which allows some groundwater degradation because economic prosperity of local communities and associated industry is of benefit to the people of California. This Order establishes terms and conditions of discharge to ensure that the discharge does not unreasonably affect present and anticipated uses of groundwater and includes groundwater limitations that apply water quality objectives established in the Basin Plan to protect beneficial uses. This Order also establishes effluent limitations that are protective of the beneficial uses of the underlying groundwater and requires periodic re-evaluation of groundwater quality. As discussed in Finding No. 79, the Discharger has implemented certain best practicable treatment and control measures to minimize degradation and plans to further minimize potential degradation by operating a 60,000-gpd RENEWS system and increasing the LAA area to include the 11-acre "Checks" area, which has not been used since 2002.

OTHER REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 84. The State Water Board adopted Order No. 97-03-DWQ (NPDES General Permit No. CAS000001) specifying waste discharge requirements for discharges of storm water associated with industrial activities, and requiring submittal of a Notice of Intent by all affected industrial dischargers. The Discharger has obtained coverage under Order No. 97-03-DWQ.
- 85. Section 13267(b) of the California Water Code provides that: "In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports".

The technical reports required by this Order and the attached "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. __" are necessary to assure compliance with these waste discharge

requirements. The Discharger owns and operates the facility that discharges the waste subject to this Order.

86. The California Department of Water Resources sets standards for the construction and destruction of groundwater wells (hereafter DWR Well Standards), as described in *California Well Standards Bulletin 74-90* (June 1991) and *Water Well Standards: State of California Bulletin 94-81* (December 1981). These standards, and any more stringent standards adopted by the State or county pursuant to CWC Section 13801, apply to all monitoring wells.
87. On 28 February 1997, the Central Valley Water Board adopted a Negative Declaration for this project. The Negative Declaration described a discharge of 500,000 gpd to 200 acres of cropland, and wastewater constituent concentrations as follows: TDS 1280 mg/L, sodium 456 mg/L, chloride 228 mg/L, BOD 2,000 mg/L, nitrogen 1 mg/L, and electrical conductivity 2,500 umhos/cm. On 5 April 2001, the San Joaquin County Community Development Department adopted a Negative Declaration for construction of the treatment/storage reservoir. The discharge described in these WDRs is consistent with the Negative Declarations described above because:
 - a. This Order does not authorize expansion of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir or land application areas.
 - b. This Order limits the discharge flow to an equivalent daily flow of no more than 482,000 gpd as a yearly average, which is no more than the highest yearly average flow since 2002, and which is less than the flow limitation in the current WDRs (Order No. R5-2002-0148).
 - c. This Order limits the annual FDS loading rate to the LAAs to a loading rate equivalent to the loading rate envisioned in the 1997 Negative Declaration for the irrigation disposal areas.
88. Therefore, the action to revise waste discharge requirements for this existing facility is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 15301.
 - a. The process wastewater treatment and reuse facilities associated with the discharge authorized herein are exempt from the requirements of Title 27, Section 20005 et seq. The exemption is based on the following:
 - a. The wastewater regulated by this Order does not need to be managed according to California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 11 as a hazardous waste.
 - b. Based on extensive technical studies of the wastewater quality, discharge operations, and site-specific geology and hydrogeology, the discharge authorized by this Order will not exceed water quality objectives. This Order ensures that discharges from the LAAs comply with the antidegradation policy. Therefore, the discharge to the LAAs is

consistent with the Basin Plan and is exempt from Title 27 pursuant to Section 20090, subdivision (b).

- c. Groundwater monitoring demonstrates that discharges from the treatment/storage reservoir have not caused underlying groundwater to exceed Basin Plan objectives. This Order ensures that discharges from the reservoir comply with the antidegradation policy. Therefore, the discharge to the treatment/storage reservoir is consistent with the Basin Plan and is exempt from Title 27 pursuant to Section 20090, subdivision (b).
- 89. State regulations that prescribe procedures for detecting and characterizing the impact of waste constituents from waste management units on groundwater are found in Title 27. Although the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and LAAs are exempt from Title 27, the data analysis methods of Title 27 are appropriate for determining whether the discharge complies with the terms for protection of groundwater specified in this Order.
- 90. Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13263(g), discharge is a privilege, not a right, and adoption of this Order does not create a vested right to continue the discharge.

PUBLIC NOTICE

- 91. All of the above and the supplemental information and details in the attached Information Sheet, which is incorporated by reference herein, were considered in establishing the following conditions of discharge.
- 92. The Discharger and interested agencies and persons have been notified of the intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for this discharge, and they have been provided an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
- 93. All comments pertaining to the discharge were heard and considered in a public meeting.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that WDRs Order No. R5-2002-0148 and Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 5-00-717 are rescinded and, pursuant to Section 13263 and 13267 of the California Water Code, Musco Family Olive Company and the Studley Company, their agents, successors, and assigns, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

Note: Other prohibitions, conditions, definitions, and some methods of determining compliance are contained in the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements" dated 1 March 1991.

A. Discharge Prohibitions

1. Discharge of wastes to surface waters or surface water drainage courses is prohibited.
2. Discharge of reservoir seepage, wastewater, irrigation tailwater, or storm water runoff from any of the designated land application areas to any off-site area or drainage course is prohibited.
3. Bypassing the wastewater screen system or the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir is prohibited.
4. Discharge of domestic wastewater to the process wastewater treatment system or land application areas is prohibited.
5. Discharge of process wastewater to areas other than the designated LAAs described in Finding No. 32 is prohibited.
6. Discharge of process wastewater to any LAA not having a fully functional tailwater/runoff control system is prohibited.
7. Grazing of animals on the land application areas is prohibited unless the Executive Officer approves a *Land Management Plan* pursuant to Provision G.2.
8. Discharge of process wastewater to land overlying septic system leach lines or seepage pits is prohibited.
9. Discharge of waste classified as hazardous, as defined in Sections 2521(a) of Title 23, CCR, Section 2510, et seq., (hereafter Chapter 15), or 'designated', as defined in Section 13173 of the California Water Code, is prohibited.

B. Discharge Specifications

1. The flow of process wastewater and storm water from the processing facility to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir shall not exceed the following limits:

Flow Measurement	Flow Limit
Total Annual Flow ¹	180 MG
Monthly Average Flow ^{2,3}	0.716 mgd

¹ As determined by the total influent flow for the calendar year.

² As determined by the total influent flow for the calendar month divided by the number of days in that month.

³ A monthly average flow limit of 1.0 mgd shall apply during September, October and November in years when the olive crop is significantly greater than average.

2. Neither the treatment nor the discharge shall cause a nuisance or condition of pollution as defined by California Water Code section 13050.
3. No waste constituent shall be released or discharged, or placed where it will be released or discharged, in a concentration or in a mass that causes violation of the Groundwater Limitations of this Order.
4. The Discharger shall continue to collect any water seepage from the toe drain of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and return it to the reservoir.
5. Nuisance odors originating at this facility shall not be perceptible beyond the limits of the property owned by the Discharger.
6. As a means of discerning compliance with Discharge Specification No. B.5, the wastewater from 1 to 2 feet below the surface of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir shall maintain the following at all times:
 - a. A dissolved oxygen concentration greater than 1.0 mg/L; and
 - b. A pH value between 6.0 and 10.5.
7. The wastewater treatment/storage reservoir shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. In particular:
 - a. An erosion control program shall assure that small coves and irregularities are not created around the perimeter of the water surface.
 - b. Weeds shall be minimized through control of water depth, harvesting, or herbicides.
 - c. Dead algae, vegetation, and debris shall not accumulate on the water surface
8. The wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and the land application system shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate allowable wastewater flow, design seasonal precipitation, and seasonal ancillary inflow and infiltration during the wet season. Design seasonal precipitation shall be based on total annual precipitation using a return of 100 years, distributed monthly in accordance with historical rainfall patterns.
9. Freeboard shall never be less than two feet in any pond as measured vertically from the water surface to the lowest possible point of overflow.

10. On or about **1 November** each year, available wastewater treatment/storage reservoir storage capacity shall at least equal the volume necessary to comply with Discharge Specification Nos. B.8 and B.9.
11. The Discharger shall monitor sludge accumulation in the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and shall periodically remove sludge as necessary to maintain adequate storage capacity.
12. The Discharger shall operate all systems and equipment to maximize treatment of wastewater and optimize the quality of the discharge.
13. The Discharger's wastewater treatment system and land application system shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.

C. Effluent Limitations

1. The FDS concentration of wastewater discharged from the RST to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir shall not exceed 2,000 mg/L as a monthly average. Compliance with this requirement shall be determined using the arithmetic mean of all effluent FDS monitoring data for the calendar month.
2. The mass of FDS discharged from the RST to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir shall not exceed an annual total of 1,055 tons. Compliance with this requirement shall be determined using the following formula:

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i V_i$$

Where M = total annual FDS mass;

C_i = arithmetic mean of FDS monitoring results for calendar month i;

V_i = total effluent flow to the RST for calendar month i;

i = the number of the month (i.e., January = 1, February = 2, etc.); and

n = 12.

3. The maximum total nitrogen loading to the LAAs shall not exceed the agronomic rate for the crop grown.
4. The maximum BOD_5 -mass loading to each LAA shall not exceed any of the following:
 - a. 300 lbs/acre on any single day;

- b. 100 lbs/acre/day as a 7-day average;
- c. The maximum loading rate that ensures that the discharge will not create a nuisance.

D. Land Application Area Specifications

1. The discharge shall be distributed uniformly on the LAAs described in Finding No. 32 in compliance with the Discharge Specifications.
2. Crops shall be grown on the LAAs. Crops shall be selected based on nutrient uptake capacity, tolerance to soil salinity and moisture conditions, and consumptive use of water and irrigation requirements. Cropping activities shall be sufficient to take up all the nitrogen applied. For NyPa forage, the Discharger shall maintain at least 51 percent coverage as a site-wide, area-weighted average. Crops shall be harvested and removed from the land application areas at least once per year prior to the winter rainy season.
3. The Discharger shall use soil moisture monitoring and soil sampling to determine soil fertility status and shall take the necessary steps to maintain fertility.
4. **Irrigation shall not be performed within 24 hours prior to a storm forecasted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (www.noaa.gov) for Tracy to have a probability of precipitation of greater than 30%, during a precipitation event, within 24 hours following a precipitation event measured by CIMIS station #167 to have rainfall greater than 0.1 inch, or when the ground is saturated.**
5. Hydraulic loading of wastewater and supplemental irrigation water (if used) shall be at reasonable agronomic rates designed to minimize the percolation of process wastewater and irrigation water below the root zone (i.e., deep percolation) and to minimize runoff.
6. The discharge of process wastewater, including runoff, spray or droplets from the irrigation system, shall not occur outside the boundaries of the land application areas.
7. Wastewater conveyance lines shall be clearly marked as such. Wastewater controllers, valves, etc. shall be posted with advisory signs; all equipment shall be of a type, or secured in such a manner, that permits operation by authorized personnel only.

8. No physical connection shall exist between wastewater piping and any domestic water supply or industrial supply well without an air gap or approved reduced pressure device.
 9. The land application areas shall be managed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes.
More specifically:
 - a. All applied irrigation water must infiltrate completely within 24 hours.
 - b. Ditches shall be maintained free of emergent, marginal, and floating vegetation.
 - c. Low pressure pipelines, unpressurized pipelines, and ditches that are accessible to mosquitoes shall not be used to store wastewater.
 10. Discharges to the land application areas shall be managed to minimize both erosion and runoff from the land application area.
 11. There shall be no standing water in the land application areas 24 hours after wastewater is applied, except during periods of heavy rains sustained over two or more consecutive days.
 12. The perimeter of the land application areas shall be bermed or graded to prevent ponding along public roads or other public areas.
 13. The effect of the wastewater discharge on the soil pH shall not exceed the buffering capacity of the soil profile.
 14. Application or impoundment of process wastewater shall not occur within 50 feet of any residential property boundary or occupied commercial building, unless it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Executive Officer that a shorter distance is justified.
- E. Solids Disposal:**
1. Sludge and other solids shall be removed from wastewater treatment equipment, sumps, etc. as needed to ensure optimal plant operation and adequate hydraulic capacity and shall be disposed of in a manner that is consistent with Title 27, Division 2, Subdivision 1 of the CCR and approved by the Executive Officer.
 2. Treatment and storage of solids and sludge (including olive pits) shall be conducted in a manner that precludes infiltration of waste constituents into soils in a mass or concentration that will violate groundwater limitations.
 3. Any storage of process wastewater solids or sludge (including olive pits) on the Discharger's property shall be temporary, controlled, and contained in a manner that

minimizes leachate formation and precludes infiltration of waste constituents into soils.

4. Storage and disposal of domestic wastewater sludge (septage) shall comply with existing Federal, State, and local laws and regulations, including permitting requirements and technical standards. Sludge and other solids shall be removed from septic tanks as needed to ensure optimal operation and adequate hydraulic capacity. A duly authorized carrier shall haul sludge, septage, and domestic wastewater.
5. Any proposed change in solids use or disposal practice from a previously approved practice shall be reported to the Executive Officer at least 90 days in advance of the change.

F. Groundwater Limitations:

1. The discharge shall not cause a statistically significant increase in the concentration of the following constituents in any of the compliance monitoring wells specified in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. ___ or subsequent revision thereto:
 - a. Total dissolved solids;
 - b. Ammonia nitrogen
 - c. Nitrate nitrogen
 - d. Iron;
 - e. Manganese;
 - f. Sodium;
 - g. Chloride;
 - h. Sulfate;
 - i. Total alkalinity; and
 - j. Total hardness.

Compliance with this requirement shall be determined annually using an approved introwell statistical analysis method based on all historical groundwater monitoring data and subsequent groundwater monitoring data obtained pursuant to Monitoring and Reporting Program No. ___.

2. The discharge shall not cause groundwater to exhibit a pH of less than 6.5 or greater than 8.4 pH units.
3. The discharge shall not impart taste, odor, chemical constituents, toxicity, or color that creates nuisance or impairs any beneficial use **listed in Finding 70**.

G. Provisions:

1. All of the following reports shall be submitted pursuant to Section 13267 of the California Water Code and shall be prepared by a registered professional as described by Provision G.5.
 - a. By **30 June 2010**, the Discharger shall submit a *Groundwater Limitations Compliance Assessment Plan*. The plan shall consist of identification of all groundwater zones that could be affected by a release from the site; identification of all proposed groundwater quality monitoring points; proposed annual groundwater quality evaluation methods; and proposed concentration limits for each constituent listed in Groundwater Limitation F.1.
 - b. By **30 July 2010**, the Discharger shall submit a *Financial Assurance Report*. The report shall document and describe in detail the financial assurances in the form of an irrevocable fund or other mechanism(s) that the Discharger has created, with the Central Valley Water Board named as beneficiary, to ensure that funds are available to complete site closure in accordance with the Excavation and Offsite Disposal Alternative scope and cost estimate cited in Finding No. 67 of this Order. The Discharger shall create financial assurance instrument(s) such that the closure project is fully funded **by 30 December 2020**, allowing for reasonable inflation, in equal annual deposits. The Discharger may not use a Financial Means Test or similar method for providing financial assurances.
If the Executive Officer subsequently approves a *Conceptual Site Closure Plan* and the cost and scope of the approved closure project differs from the Excavation and Offsite Disposal Alternative cited in Finding No. 67, the Discharger shall submit a revised *Financial Assurance Report within 120 days* of approval of the *Conceptual Site Closure Plan*.
 - c. By **30 December 2010** and by 30 December each subsequent year, the Discharger shall submit a *Financial Assurance Account Annual Update Report* that demonstrates that the Discharger has increased the total amount of financial assurance in accordance with Provision G.1.b above.
 - d. By **30 December 2010**, the Discharger shall submit a *Sludge Management Plan*. The plan shall describe in detail the results of a field investigation to determine the volume and dry mass of sludge contained in the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. Based on that estimate, the plan shall present a feasibility analysis of options for removing and disposing of the biosolids before the accumulated sludge volume exceeds two percent of the permitted reservoir capacity (84 MG). The report shall include the following:

- i. An estimate of the gross annual sludge generation rate and, if desired, annual mass reduction expected to be achieved through digestion that occurs within the reservoir. The estimate shall be based on the BOD mass loading rate to the reservoir, the sustainable BOD removal rate for the existing treatment system, and (as applicable) digestion that occurs in the reservoir.
 - ii. The recommended frequency for sludge removal and the recommended procedure for periodic assessment of the stored sludge volume as required by Monitoring and Reporting Program No. ____.
 - iii. If the estimated volume of sludge in the reservoir exceeds two percent of the permitted reservoir capacity, a schedule for biosolids cleanout within the next 12 months (i.e., by **30 December 2011**).
- e. By **30 March 2011**, the Discharger shall submit a *Conceptual Site Closure Plan*. The plan shall address the issues identified in Finding No. 67 and provide the following for both the Root Zone Salt Displacement and Excavation and Offsite Disposal alternatives:
- i. A detailed description of the predesign work that will be required to support final design of the alternative;
 - ii. A detailed conceptual design based on currently available information about site conditions (including conceptual drawings for grading, and any other site work required);
 - iii. A description of anticipated permitting activities (e.g., CEQA, dam decommissioning);
 - iv. A detailed post-closure monitoring plan designed to demonstrate the long-term effectiveness of closure;
 - v. A detailed cost estimate for capital and annual post-closure monitoring and maintenance costs that includes documentation of specific materials and work required, estimated units of each material/work item, estimated unit cost, and extended cost; and
 - vi. An engineering economic analysis that determines, based on the cost estimates and reasonable annual cost escalation, the amount of financial assurances that must be in place by **30 December 2020**.
- f. By **30 March 2012**, the Discharger shall either: certify in writing that the 60,000-gpd RENEWS system has been constructed and is fully operational; or submit an *Infeasibility Report* detailing the Discharger's efforts to design, permit, construct, and/or sustainably operate the system, and a demonstration that it is not technically or administratively feasible to do so.

2. If the Discharger proposes to graze livestock on the LAAs, the Discharger shall submit a *Land Management Plan* that describes in detail the structural controls and/or operational practices that will be used to prevent crop damage, soil erosion and sedimentation, decreases in crop salt uptake, net decreases in nitrogen removal, and increases in subsurface salt movement associated with the presence of livestock.
3. If the Annual Monitoring Report submitted pursuant to Monitoring and Reporting Program No. _____ shows any exceedance of the Groundwater Limitations of this Order, the Discharger shall submit a specific, detailed plan and schedule to come into compliance with the Groundwater Limitations, or a detailed evaluation that demonstrates that the Groundwater Limitations should be revised, **within 180 days** of the due date of the Annual Monitoring Report.
4. **At least 180 days prior** to any sludge removal and disposal, the Discharger shall submit a *Sludge Cleanout and Disposal Plan*. The plan shall include a detailed plan for sludge removal and disposal. The plan shall specifically describe the phasing of the project, measures to be used to control runoff or percolate from the sludge if it will be dried or temporarily stored on-site, and a schedule that shows how all sludge will be removed from the site for disposal prior to the onset of the next rainy season (1 October). The plan shall specify the proposed method of sludge disposal.
5. All technical reports required herein that involve planning, investigation, evaluation, or design, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. To demonstrate compliance with Sections 415 and 3065 of Title 16, CCR, all technical reports must contain a statement of the qualifications of the responsible registered professional(s). As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.
6. The Discharger shall comply with the Monitoring and Reporting Program No. _____, which is part of this Order, and any revisions thereto as ordered by the Executive Officer. The Discharger shall maintain the groundwater monitoring system as shown on Attachment D, and shall replace any monitoring wells at any location from which representative samples cannot be collected for three consecutive quarters or more.
7. The Discharger shall comply with the "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements", dated 1 March 1991, which are attached hereto and made part of this Order by reference. This attachment and its individual paragraphs are commonly referenced as "Standard Provision(s)."

8. The Discharger shall submit to the Central Valley Water Board on or before each compliance report due date, the specified document or, if appropriate, a written report detailing compliance or noncompliance with the specific schedule date and task. If noncompliance is being reported, then the Discharge shall state the reasons for such noncompliance and provide an estimate of the date when the Discharger will be in compliance. The Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board in writing when it returns to compliance with the time schedule.
9. The Discharger shall use the best practicable cost effective control technique(s) currently available to comply with discharge limits specified in this order.
10. As described in the Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements, the Discharger shall report promptly to the Central Valley Water Board any material change or proposed change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge.
11. The Discharger shall report to the Central Valley Water Board any toxic chemical release data it reports to the State Emergency Response Commission within 15 days of reporting the data to the Commission pursuant to section 313 of the "Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986."
12. In the event of any change in control or ownership of the facility, the Discharger must notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Central Valley Water Board. To assume operation as Discharger under this Order, the succeeding owner or operator must apply in writing to the Executive Officer requesting transfer of the Order. The request must contain the requesting entity's full legal name, the state of incorporation if a corporation, the name and address and telephone number of the persons responsible for contact with the Central Valley Water Board, and a statement. The statement shall comply with the signatory paragraph of Standard Provision B.3 and state that the new owner or operator assumes full responsibility for compliance with this Order. Failure to submit the request shall be considered a discharge without requirements, a violation of the California Water Code. Transfer shall be approved or disapproved by the Executive Officer.
13. The Discharger shall comply with all conditions of this Order, including timely submittal of technical and monitoring reports as directed by the Executive Officer. Violations may result in enforcement action, including Central Valley Water Board or court orders requiring corrective action or imposing civil monetary liability, or in revision or rescission of this Order.
14. The Discharger shall maintain a copy of a current Operation and Maintenance Plan (O&M Plan) at the facility for reference by operating personnel who shall be familiar with its contents. The O&M Plan shall discuss all aspects of managing the discharge operation to comply with the terms and conditions of this Order and how

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO.
MUSCO FAMILY OLIVE COMPANY AND THE STUDLEY COMPANY
WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND LAND DISPOSAL FACILITY
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to make field adjustments as necessary to preclude nuisance conditions. The O&M Plan shall also include the current cropping plan for each processing season.

15. A copy of this Order shall be kept at the discharge facility for reference by operating personnel. Key operating personnel shall be familiar with its contents.
16. The Discharger is ultimately responsible for the effectiveness of its treatment and control measures in assuring compliance with groundwater limitations, and is liable for remediation of any impact on groundwater not authorized herein. Failure to properly operate and maintain best practicable treatment and control, or failure of such measures to perform effectively, shall be grounds to rescind this Order, reclassify the waste as ~~red~~ designated, and require compliance with Title 27 prescribed waste containment standards or initiate enforcement, as appropriate.
17. The Central Valley Water Board will review this Order periodically and may revise requirements when necessary.

I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on _____.

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

1/14/2010

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. __

FOR
MUSCO FAMILY OLIVE COMPANY AND THE STUDLEY COMPANY
WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND LAND DISPOSAL FACILITY
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) describes requirements for monitoring influent wastewater, the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir, effluent wastewater, the land application areas (LAAs), the industrial process water supply, groundwater, and surface water. This MRP is issued pursuant to California Water Code Section 13267. The Discharger shall not implement any changes to this MRP unless and until a revised MRP is issued by the Executive Officer.

Specific sampling locations shall be approved by Central Valley Water Board staff prior to sampling activities. All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or the material sampled, as applicable. The time, date, and location of each grab sample shall be recorded on the sample container and chain of custody form.

Field test instruments (such as those used to measure pH and dissolved oxygen) may be used provided that:

1. The operator is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
2. The instruments are field-calibrated ~~prior to each monitoring event at least at the manufacturer's recommended calibration frequency~~;
3. The instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and
4. Field calibration reports are submitted as described in the "Reporting" section of the MRP.

INFLUENT WASTEWATER MONITORING

The Discharger shall monitor influent wastewater in accordance with the following. Samples shall be representative of the influent to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. Influent samples shall be collected downstream of the screen and prior to discharge to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. The Discharger shall use its existing continuous recording devices to monitor influent flow rate, pH, and electrical conductivity. Otherwise, grab samples collected from a pipeline or sump will be considered representative. Influent monitoring shall include, at a minimum, the following:

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Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Influent flow ¹	gpd	Meter Observation	Continuous	Monthly
Electrical Conductivity	umhos/cm	Meter Observation	Continuous ²	Monthly
BOD ₅ ³	mg/L, lbs/day	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Fixed Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Sodium	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Chloride	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly

¹ Flow of process wastewater and storm water from the facility (does not include tailwater return flows or storm water from the land application area).

² Report daily minimum, maximum, and mean.

³ 5-day, 20 °C biochemical oxygen demand.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT/STORAGE RESERVOIR MONITORING

Samples shall be collected from the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir whenever water is present. Samples shall be collected from an established sampling station as far as practical from the pond inlet, and in an area which will provide a sample representative of the wastewater in the pond. Samples for dissolved oxygen and pH shall be collected at a depth of 1 to 2 feet below the pond surface. Pond monitoring shall include at least the following:

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Freeboard ¹	feet	Measurement	Weekly	Monthly
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Daily ²	Monthly
pH	s.u.	Grab	Daily ²	Monthly
Aerator Operations Status ³	--	Observation	Daily	Monthly
Reservoir Condition ⁴	--	Observation	Daily ²	Monthly

¹ To be measured from the water surface vertically to the lowest possible point of overflow.

² This parameter shall be monitored daily for five days in each calendar week.

³ Aerator status monitoring shall include daily observation of the number of aerators in operation, ~~the time period during which each aerator was operated, and the total hours of operation for each aerator.~~

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- ⁴ Pond condition monitoring shall include determination of dam condition, storm water diversion ditches, wastewater overflows, and odor conditions (none, slight, moderate, strong).

EFFLUENT WASTEWATER MONITORING

Effluent wastewater samples shall be collected from the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir, from the approximate depth and location from which wastewater is discharged for land application or from a discharge pipe that conveys treated wastewater to the LAA irrigation system. Samples shall be collected and analyzed at the following frequencies during periods of land application. Effluent monitoring shall include at least the following:

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Electrical Conductivity	umhos/cm	Grab	Daily ¹	Monthly
pH	s.u.	Grab	Daily ¹	Monthly
BOD ₅	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Nitrate Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Fixed Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Chloride, Dissolved	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Sodium, Dissolved	mg/L	Grab	Weekly	Monthly
Iron, Dissolved	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Bicarbonate, Dissolved	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Sulfate (as SO ₄), Dissolved	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
General Minerals ²	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

¹ This parameter shall be monitored daily for five days in each calendar week.

² Including carbonate, calcium, manganese, magnesium, potassium, boron, and cation/anion balance.

LAND APPLICATION AREA MONITORING

Application of wastewater to each of the land application areas shall be monitored in accordance with the following. The Discharger shall maintain a sufficient number of flow meters to continuously monitor the flow of wastewater to each of the land application areas. All meters shall be calibrated annually in accordance with Standard Provision C.4.

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Precipitation	inches	Measured ¹	Daily	Monthly
Flow to Land Application Area	gpd	Metered/Calculated	Daily	Monthly
Application Area	acres	Measured	Daily	Monthly
Crop Cover Status	percent coverage	Calculated	Quarterly	²⁴
BOD ₅ Loading Rate	lbs/acre/day	Calculated ³²	Daily	Monthly
Hydraulic Loading Rate	inches/month	Calculated	Monthly	Monthly
Total Nitrogen Loading Rate	lbs/acre/month	Calculated ⁴³	Monthly	Monthly

¹. Measured and reported at CIMIS station No. 167.

^{2.1} Results shall be reported in the Monthly Monitoring Report submitted for the last month of the calendar quarter.

³² BOD₅ loading shall be calculated for each LAA using the daily applied volume of wastewater, estimated daily application area, daily tailwater return flow, and the most recent results of effluent and tailwater BOD₅.

⁴³ Total nitrogen loading rates shall be calculated for each LAA as a flow-weighted mass using the daily applied volume of wastewater, estimated daily application area, daily tailwater return flow, and the most recent results of effluent and tailwater total nitrogen.

In addition, the Discharger shall maintain a daily log of discharges to the land application area. Notations shall record which area is receiving wastewater, observations of ponding water, saturated soil, odors, insects, or other potential nuisance conditions. The notations shall also document any corrective actions taken.

The Discharger shall record and submit, as part of the monthly self-monitoring reports, information describing what soil amendments, including fertilizer, were applied to the land application areas, why the amendment was applied, the quantity of amendment used (total pounds applied and pounds per acre, and a description of the area over which it was used (i.e., field names, acreage).

PROCESS WATER SUPPLY MONITORING

A sampling station shall be established where a representative sample of the process water supply can be obtained. If the water supply is from more than one source, the monitoring report shall report the constituent results as a flow-weighted average and include copies of supporting calculations. Water supply monitoring shall include at least the following:

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually
Fixed Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually
General Minerals	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually

¹ Including chloride, sulfate, bicarbonate, carbonate, calcium, iron, manganese, magnesium, potassium, sodium, boron, nitrate nitrogen, alkalinity series, hardness, and cation/anion balance.

GROUNDWATER MONITORING

Effective immediately, the Discharger shall monitor all groundwater monitoring wells listed in Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. ___. **-Effective during the first quarter following the Executive Officer's approval of the *Groundwater Limitations Compliance Assessment Plan***, the Discharger shall monitor all wells identified as background and compliance monitoring wells in the approved *Groundwater Limitations Compliance Assessment Plan*. **-**Prior to completion of any new or replacement groundwater monitoring wells, the Discharger shall submit plans and specifications to the Central Valley Water Board for review and approval. Once installed, all new or replacement wells shall be added to the list of background and compliance monitoring wells.

In addition, as long as the property owners grant access, samples shall be collected from the domestic well located at 26933 South Hansen Road, Tracy, and the stock watering well located to the west of the 95-acre field in Assessor's Parcel Number 251-32-006 in Tracy. Samples from this well shall be collected upstream of any water treatment equipment.

Prior to sampling or purging of a well, equilibrated groundwater elevations shall be measured to the nearest 0.01 foot from a reference point surveyed to the nearest 0.01 foot in elevation. Groundwater depths shall be measured in all wells on the same day. Prior to collection of a groundwater sample, each shall be purged at least three well volumes until pH and electrical conductivity have stabilized, and a sample representative of the water-bearing zone can be collected. Groundwater sample collection shall be coordinated with that required by WDRs Order No. R5-2005-0024, and subsequent revisions thereto, and shall take place on the same dates. Sample collection shall follow standard U.S. EPA protocols. Groundwater monitoring shall include, at a minimum, the following:

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency ¹	Reporting Frequency
Depth to Groundwater ²	0.01 ft	Measurement	Quarterly/Semi-Annually	Quarterly
Groundwater Elevation ²	0.01 ft	Calculated	Quarterly/Semi-Annually	Quarterly
Gradient ²	ft/ft	Calculated	Quarterly/Semi-Annually	Quarterly

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency ¹	Reporting Frequency
Gradient Direction ²	degrees	Calculated	Quarterly/Semi-Annually	Quarterly
pH	s.u.	Grab	Quarterly/Semi-Annually	Quarterly
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly/Semi-Annually	Quarterly
Ammonia nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly/Semi-Annually	Quarterly
Nitrate nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly/Semi-Annually	Quarterly
General Minerals ³	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly/Semi-Annually	Quarterly

¹ Onsite wells shall be sampled quarterly, and offsite wells shall be sampled semiannually during the second and fourth calendar quarters.

² Not required for **stock watering**, K-1 and Hansen Road wells.

³ Includes chloride, sulfate, bicarbonate, carbonate, calcium, iron, manganese, magnesium, potassium, sodium, boron, and cation/anion balance.

SURFACE WATER MONITORING

Surface water samples shall be collected from sampling locations SW-1, SW-2, SW-3, and SW-4 as shown on Attachment C and analyzed in accordance with the following:

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency ^{1, 2}	Reporting Frequency
Fixed Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
BOD ₅	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Electrical Conductivity	umhos/cm	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
pH	s.u.	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Ammonia nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Nitrate nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Total Alkalinity	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Chloride, Dissolved	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Iron, Dissolved	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Sodium, Dissolved	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly
Sulfate (as SO ₄)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Monthly

¹ Samples shall be collected within three days after the first significant rainfall after 1 September each year.

² Samples shall be collected monthly from December through April when flowing water is present.

LAND APPLICATION AREA SOILS MONITORING

The Discharger shall collect and analyze representative soil samples at the background and LAA soil monitoring locations shown on Attachment D in accordance with the following. Samples shall be collected and composited to create a sample representative of the following intervals at each sampling location: -0 to 6 inches bgs, 19 to 30 inches bgs, and 46 to 60 inches bgs. Sampling shall be performed annually in September and analytical methods using saturated paste extract shall be employed to be consistent with analysis of historical samples.

Constituent	Units	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Bicarbonate	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Carbonate	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Calcium	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Chloride	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Iron, dissolved	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Sodium	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Magnesium	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Potassium	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Sulfate (as SO ₄)	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Sodium Adsorption Ratio	unitless	Annually	Annually
Electrical Conductivity	umhos/cm	Annually	Annually
pH	s.u.	Annually	Annually
Cation Exchange Capacity	meq/100 g	Annually	Annually
Exchangeable Sodium Percentage	%	Annually	Annually
Nitrate nitrogen	mg/L	Annually	Annually
Total Kjeldahl nitrogen	mg/L	Annually	Annually

SOIL MOISTURE MONITORING

The Discharger shall monitor soil moisture at ~~the appropriate~~ soil moisture monitoring locations depicted on Attachment F, which is attached hereto and forms part of this Order.

Locations that are duplicate measure locations (i.e. sites 2, 7, 8, and 12) may be omitted.
Moisture measurements shall be obtained quarterly ~~at 4-inch increments~~ from the ground surface to a depth of five feet ~~in 12-inch intervals~~. ~~Soil moisture monitoring results shall be aggregated at 12-inch intervals for each sampling location.~~ All monthly soil moisture monitoring results shall be reported **in units appropriate for developing soil water balances**

~~or for irrigation scheduling as inches of water and percent saturation~~ in the Annual Monitoring Report.

REPORTING

In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, sample type (e.g., effluent, soil, etc.), and reported analytical result for each sample are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner to clearly illustrate compliance with waste discharge requirements and spatial or temporal trends, as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required by the Monitoring and Reporting Program, shall be reported in the next scheduled monitoring report.

With the exception of flow, all constituents monitored on a continuous basis shall be reported as daily maximums, daily minimums, and daily averages; flow shall be reported as the total volume discharged per day for each day of discharge.

As required by the California Business and Professions Code Sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1, all Groundwater Monitoring Reports shall be prepared under the direct supervision of a Registered Engineer or Geologist and signed by the registered professional.

A. Monthly Monitoring Reports

Monthly reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board on the **1st day of the second month following sampling** (*i.e.* the January Report is due by 1 March). At a minimum, the reports shall include the following. Monitoring data shall be presented in tabular format.

1. Results of influent wastewater, wastewater ponds, effluent wastewater, land application areas, and surface water monitoring.
2. A map of all LAAs showing field names.
3. The location of each meter used to record flow, pH, and electrical conductivity.
4. Calibration records for all meters used to obtain monitoring data.
5. Calculation of the following:
 - a. The monthly average FDS concentration of effluent discharged to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir;
 - b. The total volume of effluent discharged to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir for the month;
 - c. The average daily flow of effluent discharged to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir;

- d. The mass of FDS discharged to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir for the month; and
 - e. The cumulative FDS mass discharged to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir to date for the calendar year.
6. A comparison of monitoring data to the limitations in WDRs; an explanation of any violation of those requirements; and a specific plan to correct the conditions that caused the violations if such conditions have not already been corrected.
 7. If requested by staff, copies of laboratory analytical reports.

B. Quarterly Monitoring Reports

The Discharger shall establish a quarterly sampling schedule for groundwater monitoring such that samples are obtained approximately every three months. Quarterly monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board by the **1st day of the second month after the quarter** (i.e., the January-March quarterly report is due by May 1st). The Quarterly Monitoring Report shall verify that the Discharger has performed the required groundwater sampling and analysis for the calendar quarter in compliance with the WDRs, this MRP, and the Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements. The report shall include a list of the monitoring wells sampled, the dates of sampling, the name of the analytical laboratory, a list of the analyses requested, the date(s) that the samples were received by the laboratory, and documentation showing that the samples were received in good condition and within the required sample holding times.

C. Annual Monitoring Report

An Annual Monitoring Report shall be prepared for each calendar year and shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board by **1 February** each year. The Annual Monitoring Report shall include the following:

1. The results of groundwater monitoring for all four quarters of the calendar year, including at least:
 - a. A narrative description of all preparatory, monitoring, sampling, and analytical testing activities for each monitoring event. The narrative shall be sufficiently detailed to verify compliance with the WDR, this MRP, and the Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements. The narrative shall be supported by field logs for each well documenting depth to groundwater; parameters measured before, during, and after purging; method of purging; calculation of casing volume; and total volume of water purged.

- b. Calculation of groundwater elevations and determination of groundwater flow direction and gradient on the date of each quarterly monitoring event; comparison of previous flow direction and gradient data; and discussion of seasonal trends if any.
 - c. A scaled map showing relevant structures and features of the facility, the locations of monitoring wells and any other sampling stations, and groundwater elevation contours referenced to mean sea level datum for each quarterly monitoring event.
 - d. A narrative discussion of the analytical results for all groundwater locations monitored including spatial and temporal tends, with reference to summary data tables, graphs, and appended analytical reports (as applicable).
 - e. A statistical evaluation of monitoring data relative to the groundwater limitations and an explanation of any exceedance of those limitations.
 - f. Summary data tables of historical and current water table elevations and analytical results.
 - g. Copies of laboratory analytical report(s) for groundwater monitoring.
2. The contents of the December Monthly Monitoring Report.
 3. The results of all water supply monitoring.
 4. The results of all surface water monitoring.
 5. Calculation of the average daily flow for each month (mgd) and the total annual flow (MG) to demonstrate compliance with the flow limits.
 6. Calculation of the monthly average FDS concentration (mg/L) and the total annual FDS mass to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limits.
 7. The results of land application soils monitoring, including a map depicting sample locations and an updated statistical evaluation of salinity trends over time with depth for each LAA.
 8. The results of monthly soil moisture monitoring, and analysis and interpretation of that data with respect to maximizing crop health while minimizing percolation below the crop root zone.
 9. An estimate of the sludge volume in the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and, if needed to comply with the WDRs, a summary plan and schedule for sludge removal.

10. A discussion of compliance and the corrective action taken, as well as any planned or proposed actions needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements.
11. An annual report, prepared by a Certified Crop Advisor or Certified Agronomist, detailing the effect of the application of the wastewater on crops, the health of the crops grown at the LAAs, and the potential for increased soil salinity and the resulting impacts to future crop growth. The report shall present the estimated crop coverage for each LAA as of the end of the year, describe the crop conditions throughout the year, and contain recommendations regarding actions necessary to improve the crop health and crop coverage for the following year. The report shall discuss the use of any soil amendments or supplemental fertilizers and the anticipated effects on nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, chloride, iron, sodium, and sulfate concentrations and mobility within the soil column.
12. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program.
13. Calibration records for all flow meters.
14. If requested by staff, tabular summaries of all data collected during the year.

A letter transmitting all reports required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall accompany each report. The letter shall include a discussion of all violations during the reporting period, and actions taken or planned for correcting violations, such as operation or facility modifications. If the Discharger has previously submitted a report describing corrective actions and/or a time schedule for implementing the corrective action, reference to the previous correspondence will be satisfactory. The transmittal letter shall contain the penalty of perjury statement by the Discharger, or the Discharger's authorized agent, as described in the Standard Provisions General Reporting Requirements Section B.3.

The Discharger shall implement the above monitoring program as of _____.

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

(date)

INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO. MUSCO FAMILY OLIVE COMPANY AND THE STUDLEY COMPANY WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND LAND DISPOSAL FACILITY SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Background

Musco Family Olive Company owns and operates an olive processing facility that processes approximately one-half of the state's total table olive crop. The facility began operations in 1983. The facility processes and cans olives year round and generates wastewater with high organic strength and high salinity. Processing generally consists of receiving olives, storage in acetic acid solution, curing in sodium hydroxide (lye), pitting, and canning in a brine solution. Process wastewater generated at the facility is regulated under two separate WDRs:

- a. Order No. R5-2005-0024 regulates two Class II surface impoundments that are regulated under Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, §20005 et seq., (hereafter Title 27). The Class II surface impoundments are used to store and evaporate concentrated brines that have been determined to be designated waste.
- b. Order No. R5-2002-0148 regulates the treatment, storage, and land application of non-designated waste. This Order updates Order No. R5-2002-0148 and only applies to non-designated waste.

The Central Valley Water Board has issued the following enforcement orders to the Discharger for various violations since 1999:

- Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. 5-00-717;
- Time Schedule Order (TSO) No. R5-2002-0014-R01;
- Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R5-2002-0149;
- Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint No. R5-2002-0502 in the amount of \$150,000 for failure to comply with CAO No. 5-00-717;¹
- ACL Complaint No. R5-2004-0534 in the amount of \$493,500 for failure to comply with certain requirements set forth in TSO No. R5-2002-0014-R01;
- ACL and Penalty Order No. R5-2007-0138, the Stipulation for Entry of Administrative Civil Liability and Penalty Order (Stipulated Order); and
- Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. R5-2007-0139.

The Discharger has paid the civil liabilities in full and timely submitted the required Site Closure and Maintenance Report.² In addition, the Discharger submitted all of the reports required by the CDO. This Order rescinds the 2000 CAO. Staff anticipates recommending rescission of the Board-adopted enforcement orders in the near future.

Waste Character, Flows, and Discharge Operations

The Discharger proposes to continue the discharge of treated process wastewater to designated land application areas (LAAs). The olive brining process generates several liquid waste streams, some of which are discharged to the Class II surface impoundments for disposal. The rest are discharged to the reservoir surge tank (RST), which is used as a pumping sump to convey the non-designated wastewater ^{to} an 84-million gallon effluent treatment/storage reservoir. Following treatment to reduce biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), the effluent is discharged to the LAAs to irrigate crops. When capacity is available in the Class II surface impoundments, some waste streams normally discharged to the

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wastewater treatment/storage reservoir and the LAAs are routed to the Class II surface impoundments to minimize the flow and salt loadings on the LAAs.

The olive storage and processing tanks are outdoors in unroofed areas. Secondary containment berms are used to capture process spills and precipitation that falls on the containment areas and direct them to sumps equipped with electrical conductivity meters. If the electrical conductivity (EC) is less than 4,800 ~~μ~~mhos/cm, the water is pumped to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. Otherwise, it is pumped to the Class II surface impoundments.

Wastewater flow rates are variable from month to month depending on production. - Total annual flows to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir ranged from 100 million gallons (MG) per year to 217 MG per year from 2000 through 2008. These flows account for both process wastewater and low salinity storm water collected in the outdoor processing areas.

The entire facility consists of 280 acres, of which approximately 80 acres are used for the processing plant. Of the remaining 200 acres, approximately 160 acres are currently used for land application of process wastewater, and another 11-acre former LAA is available for future use. Wastewater is applied to the LAAs by sprinkler irrigation. Irrigation tailwater is pumped to the effluent treatment/storage reservoir for recycling. Likewise, all storm water runoff from the LAAs drains to the treatment/storage reservoir.

Attempts to grow fodder crops such as Sudan grass and winter barley were unsuccessful due to ~~the-increasing~~ salinity **in the shallow soil profile of the waste**. In 2004, the Discharger planted a 20-acre experimental plot of NyPa Forage™, a patented clone of *Distichlis spicata*, which is commonly known as salt grass. In the last two years, the Discharger has expanded the NyPa Forage™ cultivation to all of the LAAs.

Since adoption of the current WDRs, the Discharger has implemented several process changes, equipment modifications, and modifications to the process wastewater collection system to minimize the volume and reduce the salinity of the wastewater discharged to the LAAs. These changes include:

- Converting to a closed loop fluming system;
- Reclaiming and recycling lye solutions and other process streams;
- Using carbon dioxide to neutralize residual lye in the olives instead of rinsing several times in fresh water;
- Reducing the concentration of acetic acid used for olive storage solution;
- Changing the floatation brine solution less frequently; and
- Housekeeping changes to reduce water use and capture high salinity spillage for discharge to the Class II surface impoundments.

The average fixed dissolved solids (FDS) concentration of the raw wastewater has decreased significantly in the last two years, as has the maximum monthly FDS mass. Excluding the data from 2007 and 2009 (when the plant was closed for significant periods), the total annual FDS mass has also decreased since 2004 through 2006 despite relatively constant total annual wastewater volumes.

Residual solids include olive pits, stems, waste olives, and screened solids. The olive pits and stems are sold as biomass and burned at cogeneration plants or pulverized and incorporated into compost. Waste olives are transported offsite for animal feed or offsite land disposal. The Discharger is developing an onsite process to burn pits to generate energy for the processing plant and further concentrate certain waste streams for discharge to the Class II surface impoundments. Residuals from this process, such as ash, will not be discharged onsite.

Soil Conditions

The facility is sited on an alluvial fan that generally slopes to the northeast. Slopes range from approximately 20 percent to nearly flat. Site soils are predominantly very deep and well drained clay and clay loam. Due to the high salinity of the wastewater, the Discharger has been monitoring concentrations of waste constituents in shallow LAA soils since 2002. - A total of 18 on-site sampling locations and five background sampling locations have been monitored at specific depth intervals. The background soil EC results to date vary significantly with location, depth, and time. The spatial and temporal variations in background soil EC are not readily explained by climate, topography, or soil type. The soil EC results for the LAA samples are also highly variable. Although some temporal trends seem to be present at some of the LAA sampling locations, the data do not conclusively show site-wide increases over time for any of the depth intervals monitored. Based on the spatial and temporal variability of the background soil monitoring data, it may not be possible to use the LAA soil monitoring data to make conclusions about salinity accumulation at each discrete sampling location. However, it may be possible to assess temporal trends by comparing the aggregate LAA data to the aggregate background data for each sampling interval. Based on a simplified statistical analysis of the historical soil monitoring data:

- The background EC is similar within each of the three depth intervals. This may indicate that the soil salinity does not naturally vary significantly with depth within the upper six feet of soil.
- The upper six inches of LAA soil shows significantly higher EC than the background soil on a site-wide basis; and
- The 27- to 39-inch and 60- to 72-inch intervals show some signs of salinity impacts compared to background. These impacts may be localized.

Soil monitoring data for other salinity indicators indicate that background soils have a relatively high cation exchange capacity (CEC) and marginal sodium absorption ratio (SAR) and exchangeable sodium percentage (ESP). The upper six inches of LAA soils have become

very sodic and soils in the 27- to 39-inch depth interval are also showing signs of increased sodicity. These data are consistent with the conclusions derived from the EC statistics.

This Order requires that the Discharger continue to monitor soil moisture and waste constituent concentrations in soil, and to evaluate changes over time annually. This Order also requires that the Discharger have an approved closure plan ~~effected~~ for the LAAs and wastewater treatment storage reservoir to ensure that residual waste constituents in soil do not pose a threat to surface water or groundwater quality following closure of the facility. Although the Discharger submitted the Site Closure and Maintenance Report required by ACL and Penalty Order No. R5-2007-0138, it did not adequately address site conditions, due in part to the fact that additional soil and groundwater data have been obtained since its submittal. This Order identifies specific concerns that must be addressed before the Executive Officer approves the closure plan. This Order also requires that the Discharger establish financial assurances for closure of the LAAs and wastewater treatment storage reservoir in 2010 and ensure that those assurances are fully funded by 30 December 2020.

Groundwater Conditions

The site geology and hydrogeology are complex. There are 37 onsite groundwater monitoring wells, five offsite groundwater monitoring wells, and one offsite domestic supply well that are monitored. Eleven of the onsite monitoring wells are currently dry and are monitored for the presence of water. ~~–~~Studies completed by the Discharger have identified three water-bearing zones on the site (shallow, intermediate, and deep). Groundwater in each of these zones exhibits a distinct chemical signature and different groundwater elevation. In general, the shallow groundwater zone is less than 60 feet below ground surface (bgs) in the southern portion of the site; the intermediate zone is between 60 and 120 feet bgs in the mid- to northern portion of the site; and the deep groundwater zone (greater than 120 feet bgs) is present in the northern portion of the site. Groundwater flow in the shallow zone is typically to the northeast; flow in the intermediate zone is to the northeast; and flow in the deep zone is to the northwest. ~~Based on Water level~~ elevation data indicate a downward to neutral vertical gradient.

The Discharger's studies have identified several different types of groundwater beneath the site that range in quality from connate (naturally saline waters originating from ancient sea water) to meteoric (newer, fresh water from precipitation that recharges the aquifer). The connate waters may be the source of sulfate found in some onsite groundwater monitoring wells. Based on increases in bicarbonate concentrations after operation of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir began in December of 2002, monitoring wells MW-15, MW-16, MW-3, and MW-5 have been impacted by wastewater from the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir. The increase in bicarbonate has been accompanied by a decrease in chloride, resulting in little change to total dissolved solids (TDS) concentrations in the shallow groundwater. The water table in these wells increased after the reservoir was first filled, providing physical evidence of **leakage response**. However, groundwater at the downgradient edge of the facility does not appear to have been significantly impacted by site activities, including use of the LAAs for wastewater irrigation.

Based upon the available water quality data and several different methods of estimating ambient conditions upgradient of the site, the ambient background concentration for TDS is approximately 2,000 mg/L. Historical groundwater monitoring data for key waste constituents are summarized in the following table, and the well locations are depicted on Attachment E.

Well ID/ First Sampling Date	Statisti c	pH	Na	Fe	SO4	Cl	HCO ₃ Alk.	NH ₃	NO ₃ N	BOD	TDS
MW-1	Min.	7.85	240	510	45	67	300	<0.2	11.00	<2	692
4/10/2002	Max.	9.07	1,100	3,130	91	580	470	3.30	139.7	27.00	1,920
	Mean	8.09	445	1,900	61	395	368	0.90	89.76	12.13 010	1,529
MW-2	Min.	7.18	580	150	440	130	<10	0.10	<0.1	<1	330
4/11/2002	Max.	7.70	3,280	1,620	3,970	5,400	160	0.72	3.40	3.20	13,600
	Mean	7.45	2,279	589	2,461	3,768	106	0.28	1.44	2.4503	9,836
MW-2C 6/23/2008	Min.	6.80	1,630	1,310	1,100	2,710	50	<0.1	28.67	<2	6,080
	Max.	7.81	2,430	6,530	1,400	3,000	600	5.74	42.66	9.77	8,220
	Mean	7.55	1,874	3,154	1,231	2,833	307	1.31	32.98	5.143. 33	6,728
MW-3	Min.	6.97	150	1,300	140	72	690	<0.2	0.91	<2	2,400
4/10/2002	Max.	8.08	1,800	0	260	1,100	1,530	2.30	77.00	7.70	3,170
	Mean	7.24	735	8,969	197	860	1,109	0.58	13.67	3.832. 41	2,804
MW-3C 6/19/2008	Min.	7.00	325	50	290	310	340	<0.2	8.13	<2	1,330
	Max.	7.90	392	110	370	410	385	0.90	13.09	5.10	1,510
	Mean	7.68	353	76	329	365	350	0.54	10.90	5.402. 26	1,398
MW-4	Min.	7.06	100	50	280	77	100	<0.2	2.55	<1	1,200
4/11/2002	Max.	8.29	626	240	470	2,220	410	1.80	3.80	75.00	1,900
	Mean	7.44	349	120	414	274	355	0.46	3.07	.74	1,283
MW-5	Min.	7.00	490	1,200	260	400	780	<0.2	<0.1	<2	2,000
4/11/2002	Max.	8.79	1,600	3,250	510	740	1,700	1.30	0.84	65.00	4,100
	Mean	7.32	658	2,190	355	564	1,246	0.45	0.39	28.106 .18	2,551

Well ID/ First Sampling Date	Statisti c	pH (s.u.)	Na (mg/L)	Fe (ug/L)	SO4 (mg/L)	Cl (mg/L)	HCO ₃ Alk. (mg/L)	NH ₃ (mg/L)	NO ₃ N (mg/L)	BOD	TDS (mg/L)
MW-6R 6/12/2007	Min.	7.25	421	2,080	37	550	650	<0.2	10.40	<2	1,630
	Max.	8.01	606	3,500	71	680	800	0.60	17.50	<3.9	1,890
	Mean	7.57	553	2,810	49	600	749	0.37	15.09	2	1,749
MW-7 4/12/2002	Min.	7.34	46	290	90	330	190	<0.2	3.30	<0.84	1,950
	Max.	8.02	600	1,830	1,300	540	320	0.40	8.80	4.20	2,400
	Mean	7.70	475	856	878	408	235	0.23	7.87	07	2,164
MW-8 4/12/2002	Min.	7.39	67	1	350	130	230	<0.2	5.20	<2	1,280
	Max.	7.90	616	350	490	320	280	1.60	18.00	4.40	1,500
	Mean	7.61	285	113	403	276	248	0.37	14.12	08	1,341
MW-9R 6/11/2007	Min.	7.40	360	420	500	220	340	<0.2	6.70	<0.84	1,480
	Max.	8.59	505	4,250	600	270	690	0.80	9.95	1.70	1,590
	Mean	7.88	452	1,627	559	239	407	0.50	8.74	0	1,537
MW-10R 6/11/2007	Min.	7.30	412	1,390	212	420	230	<0.2	6.61	<0.84	1,440
	Max.	8.91	540	9,720	280	490	780	1.20	14.50	0.00	1,550
	Mean	7.81	484	3,531	243	449	531	0.50	7.98	2	1,509
MW-11 4/11/2002	Well not sampled since 2003 (dry)										
MW-12 4/11/2002	Min.	7.46	369	210	630	510	140	<0.2	14.00	<1.8	2,060
	Max.	8.48	680	3,230	960	730	2,900	1.40	47.00	4.60	3,100
	Mean	7.81	542	1,524	804	600	465	0.49	30.22	59	2,353
MW-13R 6/12/2007	Min.	7.30	444	2,250	23	800	290	<0.2	48.00	<0.84	1,980
	Max.	8.20	810	5,300	80	1,360	390	1.50	135.0	0	3,90
	Mean	7.69	613	84	744	685	376	0.55	11.43	<2	2,379
MW-14 5/21/2008	Min.	7.13	140	1,870	360	640	210	<0.2	34.80	<2	2,300

Well ID/ First Sampling Date	Statisti c	pH (s.u.)	Na (mg/L)	Fe (ug/L)	SO4 (mg/L)	Cl (mg/L)	HCO ₃ Alk. (mg/L)	NH ₃ (mg/L)	NO ₃ N (mg/L)	BOD	TDS (mg/L)
11/18/200 2	Max.	8.56	968	5,560	670	1,120	710	1.80	83.00	87.00	3,430
	Mean	7.57	706	3,309	520	942	401	0.46	59.04	.9	2,916
	Min.	7.30	319	1,340	35	154	530	<0.2	6.10	<1.3	1,000
MW-15 11/19/200 2	Max.	8.52	588	4,950	280	500	1,200	1.00	25.51	22.00	1,960
	Mean	7.73	415	2,615	120	327	754	0.39	15.35	8.753. 89	1,361
	Min.	6.90	360	750	260	350	710	<0.2	0.29	<0.2	2,100
MW-16 11/18/200 2	Max.	8.29	770	4,000	470	690	1,900	1.20	18.00	4.40	2,800
	Mean	7.25	611	1,617	378	510	1,327	0.40	5.25	.09	2,552
	Min.	7.20	458	270	130	260	340	<0.2	6.48	<1.6	1,900
MW-17 6/17/2005	Max.	8.41	769	2,160	310	810	900	0.50	31.00	8.60	2,120
	Mean	7.65	613	1,095	228	639	702	0.50	17.60	44.	2,018
	Min.	7.20	480	4,860	260	490	280	<0.2	6.00	<1.6	1,600
MW-18 6/17/2005	Max.	8.81	695	8,100	658	680	1,070	0.35	9.60	2.30	1,980
	Mean	7.76	559	6,433	322	571	662	0.29	7.95	1.8598	1,822
	Min.	7.29	318	580	310	300	190	<0.2	17.00	<1.6	1,390
MW-22 11/16/200 6	Max.	9.00	491	3,580	560	520	930	<0.2	41.60	32.00	1,720
	Mean	7.88	414	1,706	421	389	315	<0.2	24.34	.31	1,545
	Min.	7.50	437	630	380	320	410	<0.2	20.99	<1.3	1,790
MW-23 6/12/2007	Max.	8.78	630	4,310	450	370	470	0.40	72.46	<2	1,960
	Mean	7.97	543	1,760	418	352	441	0.25	41.34	<2	1,835
	Min.	7.29	318	580	310	300	190	<0.2	14.67	<0.84	80
MW-24 6/12/2007	Max.	9.24	341	3,160	142	104	330	1.40	18.56	<2	730
	Mean	7.99	192	1,848	118	88	285	0.88	15.83	<2	639
	Min.	7.20	1,200	210	1,450	2,700	60	0.20	<0.1	4,400	
MW-25 6/12/2007	Max.	8.11	2,240	1,380	2,750	3,790	110	0.30	0.29	1.80	9,390
	Mean	7.65	1,810	727	1,930	3,482	78	0.24	0.21	1.8098	7,972

Well ID/ First Sampling Date	Statisti c	pH (s.u.)	Na (mg/L)	Fe (ug/L)	SO4 (mg/L)	Cl (mg/L)	HCO ₃ Alk. (mg/L)	NH ₃ (mg/L)	NO ₃ N (mg/L)	BOD (mg/L)	TDS (mg/L)
MW-26 5/14/2008	Min.	7.50	281	570	129	374	160	<0.2	16.30	<2	1,140
	Max.	8.00	353	6,720	213	450	600	1.10	21.22	3.10	1,350
	Mean	7.72	305	1,882	151	403	293	0.55	18.35	08	1,195
MW-27 6/23/2008	Min.	7.50	119	70	230	155	370	<0.2	9.00	<0.2	1,020
	Max.	8.30	267	8,630	290	171	410	1.90	11.06	<2	1,120
	Mean	7.77	233	2,288	259	162	398	0.53	10.18	<2	1,055
MW-28 6/23/2008	Min.	7.20	611	1,190	480	700	470	<0.1	0.00	<2	2,680
	Max.	7.82	730	3,300	700	780	1,000	0.64	7.86	7.50	2,930
	Mean	7.54	677	2,153	573	727	790	0.38	5.55	46	2,769
MW-29 7/31/2008	Min.	7.50	497	320	830	280	160	0.10	<0.1	2.10	1,810
	Max.	8.00	632	8,410	1,020	310	380	0.90	0.70	13.40	2,290
	Mean	7.81	573	1,835	947	296	258	0.43	0.40	36	2,010
SF-1 6/26/2008	Min.	8.60	225	90	167	106	160	<0.1	2.19	<2	700
	Max	11.9 0	287	6,700	220	158	540	0.90	10.86	6.70	820
	Mean	9.50	254	1,038	187	122	264	0.42	3.17	44	736
SF-2 6/26/2008	Min.	7.70	206	1,160	161	97	250	<0.2	3.18	<2	670
	Max	9.20	254	4,110	180	109	300	0.30	3.80	<2	700
	Mean	8.23	231	2,349	170	101	290	0.25	3.52	<2	687
SF-3 6/26/2008	Min.	7.55	421	190	310	360	100	<0.2	1.94	<2	1,470
	Max.	8.25	515	2,840	390	470	420	1.30	14.40	7.60	1,630
	Mean	7.78	365	136	462	239	270	0.10	0.4	<2	1,274
K-1 7/13/2004	Min.	7.10	285	1,140	240	210	210	<0.2	14.00	<2	980
	Max.	8.54	1,200	4,010	330	350	320	0.40	20.99	1.90	1,800
	Mean	8.01	368	2,451	277	239	265	0.32	18.51	1.85	1,142

Key to abbreviations:

Na = sodium	Fe = iron
SO ₄ = sulfate	Cl = chloride
HCO ₃ Alk. = bicarbonate alkalinity	NH ₃ = ammonia
NO ₃ N = nitrate nitrogen	BOD = biochemical oxygen demand
TDS = total dissolved solids	< = less than

The olive processing facility has discharged wastewater at the site since 1983, when the first WDRs were issued. - There are no site-specific data with which to evaluate shallow groundwater quality at the site prior to that date. Although the site is hydrogeologically complex, evaluation of local and areal groundwater conditions determined that the background groundwater TDS concentration is 2,000 mg/L.

Basin Plan, Beneficial Uses, and Water Quality Objectives

Regional surface water drainage is to the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta. **The Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the unnamed drainage crossing the site is isolated with no apparent interstate commerce connection.** The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins, Fourth Edition* (hereafter Basin Plan) designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, contains implementation plans and policies for protecting waters of the basin, and incorporates by reference plans and policies adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board. The Basin Plan establishes narrative water quality objectives for chemical constituents, tastes and odors, and toxicity in groundwater. It also sets forth numeric objectives for pH and total coliform organisms.

Antidegradation Analysis

State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16 ("Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters of the State") (hereafter Resolution 68-16) prohibits degradation of high quality groundwater unless it has been shown that:

- a. The degradation is consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the State;
- b. The degradation will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated future beneficial uses;
- c. The degradation does not result in water quality less than that prescribed in state and regional policies, including violation of one or more water quality objectives; and
- d. The discharger employs best practicable treatment and control (BPTC) to minimize degradation.

Since adoption of the previous WDRs, the Discharger has implemented the following treatment and control measures to control or prevent water quality degradation:

- A long-term water conservation program has reduced the facility's average water use from approximately 5,100 to 4,000 gallons per ton of olives processed.
- A long-term chemical source reduction/control program has reduced the yearly average FDS concentration of wastewater approximately 2,000 mg/L to 1,450 mg/L.

Additionally, the annual FDS mass discharged to the reservoir declined from over 1,300 to 880 tons per year. However, some of this reduction is attributed to crop failures in 2007 and ~~2008~~, and the Discharger believes that 1,055~~0~~ tons of **FDS** per year is a sustainable annual mass loading at full production.

- The Discharger has planted a salt-loving perennial crop at the LAAs and has made efforts to increase the crop coverage to the maximum sustainable coverage. The crop is periodically harvested for use as fodder, thereby removing some salt from the LAAs.

The Discharger also completed a pilot study to using heat energy from olive pits and the harvested crop to evaporate wastewater and generate electricity. The demonstration-scale plant (called the "Renewable Energy/Wastewater System" or RENEWS) is capable of treating up to 6,000 gallons of waste-water per day. The demonstration-scale RENEWS unit successfully reduced the FDS of one of the Discharger's waste streams to below 100 mg/L. The Discharger will build a 60,000-gpd RENEWS unit, which is expected to be operational in July 2010. The Discharger states that the 60,000-gpd RENEWS unit could further reduce the FDS mass loading to the LAAs by up to 250 tons per year.

However, the Discharger has not committed to a time schedule for completion of the 60,000-gpd RENEWS system. This Order requires the Discharger to begin operation of the 60,000-gpd RENEWS system or demonstrate that it is infeasible within two years of adoption of this Order.

Additionally, the unlined wastewater treatment/storage reservoir does not incorporate any specific measures to reduce the potential for groundwater degradation. Based on the finding that the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir has not caused unreasonable groundwater degradation or exceedance of a water quality objective, additional measures such as pond lining are not required at this time. However, this Order requires that the Discharger continue groundwater monitoring and re-evaluate groundwater quality annually. The groundwater limitations of this Order do not allow statistically significant increases in concentrations of waste constituents in groundwater. If groundwater monitoring data show that the discharge has violated the groundwater limitations of this Order, this Order may be reopened to add additional requirements that address the violations.

Constituents of concern that have the potential to degrade groundwater include salts (primarily FDS, sodium, and chloride) and nitrogen. The discharge to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir ~~has-may have~~ degraded groundwater quality **in the past, but constituent concentrations in the surrounding monitoring wells appear to be returning to pre-2002 values.** ~~Tand~~the discharge to the LAAs has the potential to degrade groundwater quality. This Order imposes concentration- and mass-based effluent salinity limits that do not allow a significant increase over the recently achieved sustainable levels cited above and will prevent degradation that exceeds water quality objectives. The FDS limits of this Order are more stringent than those imposed by the CDO and should result in a significant decrease in the chloride concentration of the waste discharged to the LAAs.

Comment [MD3]: 2009?

Comment [MD4]: 1055 or 1050?

This Order does not impose separate effluent limits for sodium and chloride because FDS measures the overall salinity and the concentration of individual salinity constituents is expected to be relatively constant. The Discharger will be able to immediately comply with the FDS limits without further treatment or source control.

Groundwater monitoring data indicate that the discharge has not caused ~~significant~~ degradation due to nitrogen. The NyPa grass grown at the LAAs should remove most of the nitrogen in the applied wastewater if the Discharger continues the current level of wastewater treatment and maintains adequate crop coverage. Given the soil type and depth to groundwater at the LAAs, subsequent denitrification in the vadose zone is expected to prevent unreasonable groundwater degradation at the LAAs. This Order requires that the Discharger continue to treat the wastewater and maintain adequate crop cover at the LAAs.

This Order does not allow any increase in the volume of waste or the mass of waste constituents discharged. It imposes lower effluent flow limits based on the hydraulic capacity of the existing system, with which the Discharger can comply. This Order is consistent with the Basin Plan and Resolution No. 68-16, which allows some groundwater degradation because **there has been no impact on beneficial use and economic prosperity** of local communities and associated industry is of benefit to the people of California.

This Order establishes terms and conditions of discharge to ensure that the discharge does not unreasonably affect present and anticipated uses of groundwater and includes groundwater limitations that apply water quality objectives established in the Basin Plan to protect beneficial uses. This Order also establishes effluent limitations that are protective of the beneficial uses of the underlying groundwater and requires periodic re-evaluation of groundwater quality. The Discharger has implemented certain best practicable treatment and control measures to minimize degradation and plans to further minimize potential degradation by operating a 60,000-gpd RENEWS system and increasing the LAA area to include the 11-acre "Checks" area, which has not been used since 2002.

Title 27

The process wastewater treatment and reuse facilities associated with the discharge authorized in this Order are exempt from the requirements of Title 27 based on the following:

- a. The wastewater regulated by this Order is not a hazardous waste.
- b. Based on extensive technical studies of the wastewater quality, discharge operations, and site-specific geology and hydrogeology, the discharge authorized by this Order will not cause exceedance of water quality objectives. This Order ensures that discharges from the LAAs comply with the antidegradation policy. Therefore, the discharge to the LAAs is consistent with the Basin Plan and is exempt from Title 27 pursuant to Section 20090, subdivision (b).
- c. Groundwater monitoring demonstrates that discharges from the treatment/storage reservoir have not caused underlying groundwater to exceed Basin Plan objectives.

This Order ensures that discharges from the reservoir comply with the antidegradation policy. Therefore, the discharge to the treatment/storage reservoir is consistent with the Basin Plan and is exempt from Title 27 pursuant to Section 20090, subdivision (b).

California Environmental Quality Act

The Central Valley Water Board adopted a Negative Declaration for this project in 1997. The Negative Declaration described a discharge of 500,000 gpd to 200 acres of cropland at certain waste constituent concentrations. Subsequently, the San Joaquin County Community Development Department adopted a Negative Declaration for construction of the treatment/storage reservoir in 2001. The discharge authorized by this Order is consistent with the Negative Declarations because this Order:

- a. Does not authorize expansion of the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir or land application areas.
- b. Limits the discharge flow to an equivalent daily flow of no more than 482,000 gpd as a yearly average.
- c. Limits the annual FDS loading rate to the LAAs to a loading rate equivalent to the loading rate envisioned in the 1997 Negative Declaration.

Effluent Limitations

As discussed above, the salinity effluent limitations of this Order were developed based on recently achieved sustainable salinity reductions and are consistent with the 1997 CEQA document. Effluent limitations for nitrogen and BOD are consistent with those typically imposed on other discharges of food processing wastewater to protect groundwater quality and prevent nuisance conditions, and the Discharger will be able to immediately comply with these limits:

- The FDS concentration of wastewater discharged from the RST to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir shall not exceed 2,000 mg/L as a monthly average.
- The mass of FDS discharged from the RST to the wastewater treatment/storage reservoir shall not exceed an annual total of 1,055 tons.
- The maximum total nitrogen loading to the LAAs shall not exceed the agronomic rate for the crop grown.
- The maximum BOD₅ mass loading to each LAA shall not exceed any of the following:
 - 300 lbs/acre on any single day;
 - 100 lbs/acre/day as a 7-day average; and
 - The maximum loading rate that ensures that the discharge will not create a nuisance.

Groundwater Limitations

As discussed above, groundwater beneath the LAAs has not been degraded by the discharge, and groundwater beneath the wastewater treatment storage reservoir has been degraded but the degradation has not cause exceedance of a water quality objective **and groundwater constituent concentrations appear to be returning to pre-reservoir levels.** Additionally, the Discharger has implemented certain best practicable treatment and control measures and plans additional measures in the near future. Therefore, the groundwater limitations of this Order specify that the discharge shall not cause a statistically significant increase in the concentration of the following constituents in groundwater:

- Total dissolved solids;
- Ammonia nitrogen;
- Nitrate nitrogen;
- Iron;
- Manganese;
- Sodium;
- Chloride;
- Sulfate;
- Total alkalinity; and
- Total hardness.

Additionally, the groundwater limitations implement the numeric water quality objectives for pH and the narrative water quality objectives for chemical constituents, tastes, odors, and toxicity, and do not allow impacts to beneficial uses of groundwater.

Other Requirements

The Provisions require that the Discharger submit the following technical reports:

- A *Groundwater Limitations Compliance Assessment Plan* that specifies the proposed means and methods for the required annual groundwater quality evaluation.
- A *Financial Assurance Report* that documents the financial assurance instrument(s) that the Discharger has created to ensure that funds are available to complete site closure by 30 December 2020.
- A *Financial Assurance Account Annual Update Report* that demonstrates that the Discharger has increased the total amount of financial assurance each year as **Required Sludge Management Plan** that describes periodic evaluation of the impact of sludge accumulation on reservoir storage capacity and a *Sludge Cleanout and Disposal Plan* due prior to any sludge disposal work.
- A *Conceptual Site Closure Plan* that addresses the issues identified the VDRs and provides a more detailed analysis of the Root Zone Salt Displacement and Excavation and Offsite Disposal alternatives.

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- Certification of completion of the 60,000-gpd RENEWS or an *Infeasibility Report* demonstrating that it is not technically or administratively feasible to do so.
- A *Land Management Plan*, which is only required if the Discharger proposes to graze livestock on the LAAs.
- If there is any exceedance of the Groundwater Limitations, a plan and schedule to come into compliance with the Groundwater Limitations, or a detailed evaluation that demonstrates that the Groundwater Limitations should be revised.